GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2967 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2020

STATUS OF OSMANABAD-TULJAPUR-SOLAPUR RAILWAY ROUTE

†2967. SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH *ALIAS* PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is formulating any plan to speed up the completion of sanctioned railway routes in the country;
- (b) if so, the present status of Osmanabad Tuljapur-Solapur railway route which is likely to be completed by the year 2024;
- (c) if so, whether the Railways has sanctioned Rs. 997 crore to complete this rail route; and
- (d) if so, the action likely to be taken by the Government on the authority responsible for not initiating the work pertaining to surveys, measurement of land, etc. along with the manner in which it is likely to be taken?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2967 BY SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH *ALIAS* PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.03.2020 REGARDING STATUS OF OSMANABAD-TULJAPUR-SOLAPUR RAILWAY ROUTE

(a): 498 ongoing Railway Projects including 188 New Lines, 55 Gauge
Conversion and 255 Doubling Projects of total length 49,069 Km, costing
₹6.75 lakh crore are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution.

In addition, under the Umbrella Work of 2019-20, 05 New Line works of 432 Km length costing ₹6,419 crore and 32 Doubling works of 4,536 Km length costing ₹47,547 crore have been included in Budget booklet of Financial Year 2020-21.

PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA (falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra):

38 Projects costing ₹73,485 crore for 5,879 km length, falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra are under different stage of planning/approval/execution. This includes:-

- 16 New Line Projects covering a length of 2,043 km at a cost of ₹38,129 crore. Out of which, 63 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,479 crore has been incurred upto March'2019.
- 5 Gauge Conversion Projects covering a length of 1,135 km at a cost of ₹11,102 crore. Out of which, 500 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹4324 crore has been incurred upto March'2019.

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 17 Doubling Projects covering a length of 2,701 km at a cost of ₹24,255 crore. Out of which, 234 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹5,369 crore has been incurred upto March'2019.

BUDGET ALLOCATION (for the projects falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra):

- Average Annual Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra during 2014-19 has increased to ₹4,801 crore per year from ₹1,171 crore per year during 2009-14. Thus, the average budget allocation during 2014-19 is 310% more as compared to average allocation of 2009-14 (₹11,71 crore).
- Total allocation of Budget for Infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/ partly in State of Maharashtra, in 2019-20 is ₹7,281 crore, which is 522% more than the average of 2009-14.This is the highest ever allocation made to the state.

COMMISSIONING OF PROJECTS (falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra):

 During 2009-14, 292 km length (111 km New Line, 135 km Gage Conversion and 46 km Doubling) has been commissioned. During 2014-19, 596 km length (87 km New Line, 92 km Gage Conversion and 417 km Doubling) has been commissioned, which is 104% more with respect to commissioning achieved during 2009-14.

Thorough review of throughput enhancement projects has been carried out and with focused approach, the projects have been prioritized into Super Critical Projects (58 nos), Critical Projects (68 nos.) and other throughput enhancement projects (130 nos.).

As on 01.04.2019, the balance length of Super Critical Projects is 2,347 Km, 5,676 Km of Critical Projects. All out sincere and focused approach is being adopted by Railway for quick execution of these projects.

In the overall interest of the Nation and to ensure that, projects are completed in time without cost overrun, lot of monitoring is being done in Railways at various levels (field level, divisional level, zonal level and Board level) and regular meetings are held with the officials of State Government and concerned Authorities to resolve the pending issues that are obstructing the progress of projects.

To ensure that projects are completed even before time, Railway has adopted the concept of incentives to the contractor in the form of bonus clause in contracts which will further enhance the pace of execution of projects. For capacity enhancement projects, institutional financing has been arranged, which has increased Railways' capacity for committed fund provision for essential projects.

The completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by of forest department, shifting of infringing officials utilities (both underground and over ground), statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions, encountering unforeseen conditions like earthquake, flooding, excessive rains, strikes of labour, orders of Hon'ble Courts, situation and conditions of working agencies/contractors etc. All these factors vary from project to project and site to site and affect the completion time and cost of the project.

(b) to (d): New line work from Solapur to Osmanabad via Tuljapur (84.44 Km) has been sanctioned in January, 2019 at a cost of ₹904.92 crore. Budget Estimate Outlay of ₹5 crore has been allotted for 2019-20. Land acquisition proposal for 7.45 Hectare land has been submitted to State Government. Further, Final Location Survey (FLS) and preparation of land acquisition proposal for balance length has been taken up.

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