GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1746 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.09.2020

TIMELY COMPLETION OF PROJECTS

1746. SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment to ascertain the progress of the projects like laying of new railway lines, doubling, gauge conversion, electrification and signals in various States of the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof, zone-wise;
- (c) the funds allocated and released for timely completion of the said projects during the said period, State/UT-wise along with the number of projects which missed the deadline so far, projectwise;
- (d) the number of Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) formed by the Government for timely completion of the said projects along with achievements thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for timely completion of the said projects across the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1746 BY SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 21.09.2020 REGARDING TIMELY COMPLETION OF PROJECTS

(a) and (b): The progress of projects is assessed regularly. The status of commissioning of New lines/Gauge Conversion/Doubling projects (excluding Dedicated Freight Corridors) during the last three years is summarized below:-

Plan Head	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
	(Km)	(Km)	(Km)	(upto Aug'20) (Km)
New Lines	409	480	360	150
Gauge	45.4	507	400	76
Conversion	454	597	408	
Doubling	999	1519	1458	282
Total	1862	2596	2226*	508

The progress for Electrification projects is being assessed regularly and progress made during the last three years and current year is summarised below:-

Year-wise Electrification					
2017-18 (Route Km)	2018-19 (Route Km)	2019-20 (Route Km)	2020-21 upto Aug'20 (Route Km)		
4087	5276	4378*	1042		

Likewise, the progress for provision of modernisation of Signalling System made in the last three years and the current year is summarised below:-

S/ No.		Year- wise Modernisation			
	Items	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (upto Aug'20)
1	Electrical/Electronic Interlocked Station (Numbers)	329	393	417	78
2	Block Proving by Axle Counter (Block Sections).	379	400	375	74

3	Level Crossing Gate interlocking (Numbers)	272	413	108	64
4	Intermediate Block Signaling (Block Sections)	31	49	40	12
5	Automatic Signaling (Route Km)	52	147	279	52

*The reason for shortfall in progress in Year 2019-20 with respect to Year 2018-19 is primarily on account of COVID-19 pandemic during the last quarter of 2019-20, which was the peak season for execution of projects. Some of the Works which were complete could not be commissioned in the last quarter of 2019-20 are now being commissioned progressively in 2020-21.

(c): The project-wise details including cost, expenditure and outlay are available in public domain on Indian Railways' website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in >Ministry of Railways >Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates >Finance (Budget) >Railways> Pink Book (year) >Railway-wise Works, Machinery & Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Completion of Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, 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, etc. and all these factors differ from project to project and affect the completion time of the project(s), due to which confirmed time frame for completion of project cannot be ascertained.

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(d): Two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) one each in the States of Gujarat and Haryana have been formed by Railways during last 3 years namely:-

State of Gujarat

 (i) Bahucharaji Rail Corporation Limited (BRCL) in Gujarat for execution of Gauge Conversion project named Katosan road-Chanasma-Ranuj (65 Km) and execution of the work has been taken up by the SPV.

State of Haryana

(ii) Haryana Orbital Rail Corporation Limited in Haryana for construction of 121 Km long double line track between Palwal to Sonipat and the work has been sanctioned by Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) in Sept'2020.

(e): Ministry of Railways has formulated a Participative Policy, 2012 to encourage the investment in developing rail connectivity by associating strategic partners and other investors. The policy defines five Public Private Partnership models viz. Non-Government Railway (NGR), Joint Venture (JV), Customer funded model, Build Operate Transfer (BOT) and BOT annuity models.

Various other steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects in the country are (i) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (ii) prioritisation of projects, (iii) delegation of powers at field level, (iv) nomination of nodal officers for improved co-ordination with the State Governments etc. This has resulted in substantial increase in pace of execution of projects from 2014 onwards.

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