

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 409
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2021**

DONGARGARH-KATGHORA RAILWAY LINE

†*409. SHRI SANTOSH PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of Dongargarh-Katghora railway line and the time by which the work on the said railway line is likely to be completed;**
- (b) the details of the funds released till date in this regard item/head-wise;**
- (c) the names of the districts/places where the land acquisition process is incomplete along with the reasons therefor;**
- (d) whether rates of land acquisition are different for the affected land owners and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and**
- (e) whether there is any provision for jobs in the Railways for the families of the affected land owners and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 409 BY SHRI SANTOSH PANDEY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.03.2021 REGARDING DONGARGARH-KATGHORA RAILWAY LINE

(a) to (c): The project Katghora to Dongargarh New BG Electrified line (294.53 Km) has been taken up by Chhattisgarh Railway Corporation Ltd. (CRCL), a Joint Venture company of Ministry of Railway (49%) and Government of Chhattisgarh (51%), for execution at a cost of ₹ 5,950.47 Cr. This project has been sanctioned by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 26.09.2018.

The financial structure of the project is as under:-

Share of Ministry of Railway-	₹ 349.89 Cr (5.88 %)
Share of Government of Chhattisgarh -	₹ 364.17 Cr (6.12%)
Mahagenco-	₹ 386.78 Cr (6.50 %)
ACB India Pvt. Ltd.-	₹ 386.78 Cr (6.50 %)
Domestic Financial Institutions-	₹ 4,462.85 Cr (75 %)

Till date no funds have been released for this project. However, a sum of ₹ 24.5 Cr has been released to CRCL as equity Share of Ministry of Railway.

Publication for declaration of Land Acquisition has been done in 5 districts (Korba, Bilaspur, Mungeli, Kawardha and Rajnandgaon) under section 20E. Land Acquisition work was started in 4 districts. All obligations, claims etc were settled and the stage of declaration of award was reached in Nov 2018. Since then, the work is at standstill as no award has been declared by State Government and the proceedings have lapsed.

Completion of any Railway project 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

climate conditions etc. and all these factors affect the completion time of the project. As such, no confirmed time frame for completion of projects can be ascertained at this stage.

(d): The rates for the land acquisition are decided by the competent authorities (which is in this case are Addl. Collectors nominated for different districts by Government of Chhattisgarh) based on the prevailing guide line rates and as per norms of Government of Chhattisgarh and the provisions of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

(e): There is no provision for jobs in Railways for affected land owners.

During 2009-14 average annual budget outlay for Infrastructure projects & safety works falling fully/partly in Chhattisgarh State was ₹ 311 Cr per year only, which has been increased to ₹ 2,274 crore per year i.e. 631% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14. Budget outlay of ₹ 3650 Cr has been proposed for these projects for Financial Year 2021-22, which is 1074% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

During 2009-14, 32 Km Doubling projects falling fully/partly in the State of Chhattisgarh were commissioned (average rate 6 km per year). Commissioning during 2014-19 has been increased to 416 Km (42 km New line and 374 km Doubling) (average rate 83 km per year), which is 1200% more than commissioning during 2009-14. During 2019-20, 103 Km sections (43 km of New line and 60 km of Doubling) falling fully/partly in Chhattisgarh State have been commissioned, which is 1617% more than average annual commissioning during 2009-14 (6 Km per year).

New line project of Dallirajhara-Rowghat (95 Km) costing ₹ 4160 Cr has been delayed due to delay in handing over of land by Government of Chhattisgarh and due to law and order problems in the area. Still Government of Chhattisgarh has to hand over encumbrance free land in 4.76 Km length.