RAIL CONNECTIVITY IN TRIBAL DOMINATED AREAS

†244. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the tribal dominated district headquarters in the country, especially in Maharashtra, that are yet to be connected with rail network;

(b) whether the Union Government has taken/proposes to take steps to connect these tribal-dominated district headquarters with rail network;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(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 STARRED QUESTION NO. 244 BY SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.12.2021 REGARDING RAIL CONNECTIVITY IN TRIBAL DOMINATED AREAS

(a) to (d): The Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise, District wise or area wise as the Railways’ projects may span across State boundaries. Sanction of new railway lines in areas which are not connected by Railway network including tribal dominated areas is a continuous and ongoing process of Indian Railways.

As on 01.04.2021, Indian Railways has taken up 187 New line projects of 21,037 km length, costing ₹4,05,916 crore, which are in various stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which commissioning of 2,621 km length has been achieved and expenditure of ₹1,05,591 crore has been incurred upto March, 2021. These new line projects will provide connectivity to areas which are not connected with Railway network including tribal dominated areas.

Most of the tribal dominated district headquarters of Maharashtra namely Nandurbar, Dhule, Nasik and Palghar are already connected on railway network. Railway has also taken up Wadsa – Gadchiroli new line project for connecting Gadchiroli, which is one of the tribal dominated district headquarter.
As on 01.04.2021, 16 New Line Projects costing ₹49,221 crore for 2,017 km length falling fully/partly in Maharashtra are under different stages of planning/ approval/ execution, out of which 62 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹4,563 crore has been incurred upto March, 2021.

Details of all ongoing Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made 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) >Rail Budget/Pink Book (Year)> Railway wise Works Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme.

During 2014-21, 17720 km projects (3681 km of New Line, 4871 km of Gauge Conversion and 9168 km of Doubling) have been commissioned in the country at an average rate 2531.5 km per year, which is 66% more than average commissioning during 2009-14 (1520 km/year).

During 2014-21, 916 km section (87 km New Line, 136 km Gauge Conversion and 693 km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra have been commissioned at an average rate 130.86 km per year, which is 124% more than average annual commissioning during 2009-14 (58.4 km/year).

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