GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1241 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2022

ONGOING/PENDING RAIL PROJECTS IN BIHAR

†1241. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the project-wise details of various ongoing and pending rail projects in Araria district of Bihar along with the present status thereof;
- (b) the details of the number of rail projects running behind the stipulated time-period;
- (c) the names of such approved/ongoing projects in the State which are likely to be completed or started during the year 2021-22; and
- (d) the measures being taken by the Government for expeditious completion of the said projects?

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.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1241 BY SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.02.2022 REGARDING ONGOING/PENDING RAIL PROJECTS IN BIHAR

- (a) to (d): Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and not District/State-wise as Indian Railways' project may spans across State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2021, 57 projects (35 new lines, 05 gauge conversions and 17 doublings), of total length of 5,267 Km costing ₹76,137 crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar including Araria District of Bihar are in different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 1,348 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹25,380 crore has been incurred upto March, 2021. These include:
- 35 new line projects covering a total length of 2,962 Km, costing ₹53,773 crore, out of which, 497 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹15,710 crore has been incurred upto March'21.
- 5 gauge conversion projects covering a total length of 1,018 Km, costing ₹6,188 crore, out of which, 780 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹4,516 crore has been incurred upto March'21.
- 17 doubling projects covering a total length of 1,287 Km, costing ₹16176 crore, out of which, 71 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹5,154 crore has been incurred upto March'21.

Projects in the State of Bihar are covered by East Central Railway (ECR), Eastern Railway (ER), North Eastern Railway (NER) and Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) Zones of Indian Railways. 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)> Pink Book (year)>Railways-wise Works, Machinery & Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of Bihar, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹3,061 crore per year from ₹1,132 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 170% more than Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. Average These allocations have been increased to ₹4,093 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (262% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹4,489 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (297% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2021-22, highest ever budget outlay of ₹5,560 crore {Original Budget Outlay (BE) ₹5150 crore and additional allotment ₹410 crore} has been provided for these projects, which is 391% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14 (₹ 1,132 crore per year).

During 2014-21, 968 Km length (317 Km New Lines, 345 Km Gauge Conversion and 306 Km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar has been commissioned at an average rate of 138.29 Km per year, which is 117% more than the commissioning during 2009-14 (63.6 Km per year).

Completion of any Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forestry clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of State share by the State Government in cost sharing projects, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project/s site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions, etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project/s. Nevertheless, Railways are making all efforts to complete these projects at the earliest.

Railways have taken up various steps for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects which include (i) prioritisation of projects, (ii) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (iii) delegation of powers at field level, (iv) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels (v) regular follow up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition, forestry and Wildlife clearances and for resolving other issues pertaining to projects.
