

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1269
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2022**

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN PUNJAB

1269. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of railway projects in Punjab, district/project-wise including those where survey has been conducted and approval has been accorded but work has not been started yet;**
- (b) the details of the total budgetary allocations made by the Government for these projects;**
- (c) the reasons, if any, for the delay in the completion of these railway projects in Punjab;**
- (d) whether the Government is taking any measures to complete all the pending railway projects in Punjab within a fixed time schedule; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1269 BY SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.02.2022 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN PUNJAB.

(a) & (b): The Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Railway projects may span across State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2021, 15 Projects (6 New Lines and 9 Doubling), costing ₹ 25,301 crore for 1,781 km length falling fully/partly in Punjab are under different stages of planning/approval/execution, Out of which 316 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 3,827 Cr. has been incurred upto March 2021. These include :

- 6 New Line Projects of total length 356 km at a cost of ₹ 12,230 crore, out of which 61 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 1,471 Cr. has been incurred upto March 21.**
- 9 Doubling Projects of total length 1,425 km at a cost of ₹ 13,071 crore, out of which 255 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 2,356 Cr. has been incurred upto March 21.**

Railway infrastructure projects in the State of Punjab is covered under Northern Railway(NR) and North Western Railway(NWR) zone of Indian Railways. Zone wise details of these 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)> Pink Book (year)> Railway-wise Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocations and commensurate commissioning of infrastructure projects. Average Annual Budget Allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/Partly in State of Punjab during 2014-19, has been enhanced to ₹ 1004 crore per year from ₹ 225 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 346% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14. These

allocations have been increased to ₹ 1095 crore in financial year 2019-20 (387% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14) and ₹ 1565 crore for financial year 2020-21 (596% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14). For financial year 2021-22, highest ever budget outlay of ₹ 2262 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 905% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

(c): The completion of any Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost by 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 considerations etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project(s). Nevertheless, every effort is being made to execute the project expeditiously.

(d) & (e): Various steps taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of Railway projects include (i) prioritisation of projects (ii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iii) delegation of powers at field level (iv) close monitoring of progress of projects at various levels, and (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.

During 2014-21, 114 Km Doubling sections falling fully/partly in Punjab have been commissioned in the State at an average rate 16.29 km per year.
