

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1765  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022**

**NEW RAILWAY LINES IN ASSAM**

**1765. SHRI M. BADRUDDIN AJMAL:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of surveys conducted for laying new railway lines in the State of Assam during the last three years, State-wise;**
- (b) whether the Railways has set a target to link all the States of the North Eastern Region (NER) with broad gauge railway lines;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the deadline fixed in this regard;**
- (d) the number of States for which approval has been accorded to provide such linkages and the number of States in which works have been started so far; and**
- (e) the amount of funds likely to be incurred for the development of proposed rail network in the NER?**

**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.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1765 BY SHRI M. BADRUDDIN AJMAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.07.2022 REGARDING NEW RAILWAY LINES IN ASSAM**

**(a): Total 7 surveys for New Line projects falling fully/partly in Assam with aggregate length of 558 km have been completed in last 3 years and current financial year (i.e. 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and current financial year).**

**(b) to (d): State Capitals of Assam (Guwahati), Tripura (Agartala) and Arunachal Pradesh (Itanagar) have been connected by Broad Gauge (BG) Rail network of Indian Railways. In Arunachal Pradesh, a BG railway line has been commissioned upto Naharlagun, which is a suburban city of Itanagar (distance between Itanagar-Naharlagun is 10 km).**

**For capital connectivity of remaining 5 States of North Eastern Region - Meghalaya (Shillong), Manipur (Imphal), Nagaland (Kohima), Mizoram (Aizawl) and Sikkim (Gangtok), Railway has taken up New Line projects as detailed below:**

**(1) Manipur: Jiribam - Imphal (111 km) new line project has been taken up for connecting Imphal with Indian Railways (IR) network. Cost of the project is ₹14,323 crore and expenditure of ₹12,371 crore has been incurred on the project upto 31.03.2022. An outlay of ₹1,000 crore has been provided for 2022-23. The section from Jiribam to Khongsang (55 km) has been commissioned and work has been taken up in remaining length.**

**Contd.....2**

**(2) Mizoram: Bhairabi - Sairang (51 km) new line project has been taken up for connecting Aizawl with IR network (Sairang is suburban city of Aizawl, the Capital city of Mizoram). Cost of the project is ₹5,522 crore and expenditure of ₹4,952 crore has been incurred on the project upto 31.03.2022. An outlay of ₹1,005 crore has been provided for 2022-23. The construction work has been taken up throughout the length of project.**

**(3) Nagaland: Dimapur (Dhansiri) - Zubza (Kohima) (82 km) new line project has been taken up for connecting Kohima with IR network (Zubza is suburban city of Kohima, the Capital city of Nagaland). Cost of the project is ₹6,911 crore and expenditure of ₹1,599 crore has been incurred on the project upto 31.03.2022. An outlay of ₹1,000 crore has been provided for 2022-23. The section from Dhansiri-Sukhovi (16.5 km) has been commissioned and work has been taken up in remaining length.**

**(4) Sikkim: Sivok - Rangpo (44 km) new line project has been taken up in first phase for connecting Gangtok with IR network (Rangpo is 40 km short of Gangtok). Cost of the project is ₹8,043 crore and the expenditure of ₹2,558 crore has been incurred on the project upto 31.03.2022. An outlay of ₹2,500 crore has been provided for 2021-22.**

**Out of 44 km, total 38.7 km is in tunnels. Works on all 14 tunnels have been taken up.**

**(5) Meghalaya: Two new line projects have been taken up simultaneously for connecting Shillong, the capital of Meghalaya, with IR network:**

**Contd.....3**

**(i) Tetelia - Byrnihat (22 km) new line project has been taken up. Cost of the project is ₹1,043 crore and expenditure of ₹950 crore has been incurred on the project upto 31.03.2022. An outlay of ₹100 crore has been provided for 2022-23. 10 km length of the project falling in Assam State from Tetelia to Kamalajari got completed in October, 2018. Project is held up as some organizations are stating that railway connectivity may lead to influx of outsiders and this has led to some local resistance to this project.**

**(ii) Byrnihat - Shillong (108 km) new line project has been taken up. Cost of the project is ₹4,083 crore and expenditure of ₹264 crore has been incurred on the project upto 31.03.2022. Project is held up as some organizations are stating that railway connectivity may lead to influx of outsiders and this has led to some local resistance to this project.**

**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, priority of project/s, 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 considerations etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project/s. As such, confirmed completion time of project/s cannot be ascertained at this stage; nevertheless, every effort is being made to execute the project/s expeditiously and early commissioning.**

**(e): Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in budget allotment for infrastructure projects. Average annual Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/ partly in the North Eastern Region, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹5,531 crore per year from ₹2,122 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 161% more than average annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹4,909 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (131% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹4,669 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (120% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹7,542 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (255% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever budget allocation of ₹9,970 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 370% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14 (₹2,122 crore per year).**

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