GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2936 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2022

INCOMPLETE RAILWAY PROJECTS

†2936. SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any special policy to complete the incomplete railway projects during the year 2021-22 due to which railway travel is not gaining momentum, if so the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government has prepared a list of incomplete railway projects in year 2021-22; if so, the details thereof in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2936 BY SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.08.2022 REGARDING INCOMPLETE RAILWAY PROJECTS

(a) & (b): As on 01.04.2022, across Indian Railways, 452 Railway projects (183 New Line, 42 Gauge Conversion and 227 Doubling) of total length 49,323 Km, costing approx. ₹7.33 lakh crore are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution, out of which, 11,518 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.35 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.

The details of 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 (RSP).

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 share by State Government in cost sharing projects, priority of 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. and all these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project(s). With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously.

Railway has reviewed all the projects based on last mile connectivity, missing links, traffic potential on the project, capacity enhancement, availability of land, forest/wild-life clearance etc. and based on the review,

Railway projects have been prioritized. Presently, Railway's focus is on completion of capacity enhancement projects and last mile connectivity projects. Budget outlay has been provided to the projects in a rationalized manner and budget has been allotted to the projects which are in advance stage of completion, priority projects, important New Line & National projects, executable & important Gauge conversion projects and the projects which are important from the throughput enhancement considerations. Thus, focused attention is given in fund allotment, rather than thinly spreading the resources without commensurate results.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation for New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling Projects and commensurate commissioning of Projects in Indian Railways. The Average Annual Budget allocation for these works during 2014-19 increased to ₹26,026 crore per year from ₹11,527 crore per year during 2009-14 (126% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14). The Annual Budget allocation increased to ₹39,836 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (246% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14), ₹43,626 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (278% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14) and ₹56,716 crore for Financial year 2021-22(392% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest-ever budget outlay of ₹67,001 crore has been provided for these works, which is 481% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

During 2014-22, across Indian Railway, 20,628 km sections (3,970 km New Line, 5,507 km Gauge Conversion and 11,151 km Doubling) has been commissioned at an average of 2,579 km/year which is 70% more than the average commissioning during 2009-14 (1,520 km/year).
