

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2959
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2022**

DEVELOPMENT OF RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE IN WEST BENGAL

2959. SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current projects underway for the development of railway infrastructure in West Bengal;**
- (b) the total allocation of budget towards developing Railways in West Bengal along with the projects proposed, total funds allocated, expected project outcomes and the expected year of completion;**
- (c) the total budget allocated for various projects and for the development project of the Eastern Railway zone;**
- (d) whether the Railways has received cooperation from the Government of West Bengal; and**
- (e) if so, the details in this regard?**

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. 2959 BY SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.08.2022 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE IN WEST BENGAL

(a) to (e) : Railway projects are sanctioned and executed Zonal Railway wise and not State wise as Railway projects may span across State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2022, 50 Railway projects (16 new lines, 04 gauge conversions and 30 doublings), costing ₹ 51,645 crore, covering total length of 4,365 Km, falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal are in different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 2,065 Km length have been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹20,974 crore has been incurred upto March'22.

Railway Infrastructure Projects in the state of West Bengal is covered by Eastern Railway (ER), South Eastern Railway (SER) 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 the State of West Bengal, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹ 4,612 crore per year from ₹ 4,380 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 5% more than Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹ 5,033 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (15% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of

2009-14), ₹ 5,246 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (20% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹ 6,988 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (60% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever Budget outlay of ₹ 10,262 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 134% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14 (₹ 4,380 crore per year).

Completion of any Railway project/s depends on various factors like cooperation of State Governments in quick land acquisition, forestry clearance by officials of forest department, 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. With these constraints, Railways are making all efforts to complete these projects at the earliest.

During 2014-22, 998 km sections (88 km new line, 151 km Gauge conversion and 759 km doubling) falling fully/partly in West Bengal have been commissioned at an average rate 124.75 km per year.
