

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 132  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024**

**STRENGTHENING OF SUBURBAN RAILWAY NETWORK**

**\*132 DR. HEMANT VISHNU SAVARA:**

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

- (a) whether Government has taken fresh initiatives to upgrade and strengthen suburban railway network between Palghar and Mumbai;**
- (b) if so, the details of the projects approved and under implementation along with progress made including their present status, project-wise; and**
- (c) the details of action plan finalized and to be considered to strengthen and modernise suburban railway transport to ensure safety and security?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 132 BY DR. HEMANT VISHNU SAVARA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 31.07.2024 REGARDING STRENGTHENING OF SUBURBAN RAILWAY NETWORK**

**(a) to (c): Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as Indian Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2024, 41 Railway projects (16 New Line, 02 Gauge Conversion and 23 Doubling), of total length of 5,877 km costing ₹81,580 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra are in planning/approval/construction stages, out of which 1,926 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹31,236 crore has been incurred upto March 2024. These include-**

- (i) 16 New Line projects of total length of 2,017 km costing ₹38,423 crore, out of which 166 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹8,529 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.**
- (ii) 2 Gauge Conversion projects of total length of 609 km costing ₹7,339 crore, out of which 312 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,332 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.**
- (iii) 23 doubling projects of total length of 3,251 km costing ₹35,818 crore, out of which 1448 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹19,376 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.**

**Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra are covered in Central Railway, South Central Railway, South East Central Railway, South Western Railway and Western Railway Zones of Indian Railways. Zone-wise and Year-wise details of railway projects including their cost, source of funds, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website.**

**Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra is as under:-**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Average Outlay</b>	<b>Increase as compared to average allocation during 2009-14</b>
<b>2009-14</b>	<b>₹1171 crore/year</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2014-24</b>	<b>₹7197 crore/year</b>	<b>6.13 times</b>
<b>2023-24</b>	<b>₹13539 crore</b>	<b>11.56 times</b>
<b>2024-25</b>	<b>₹15940 crore</b>	<b>13.61 times</b>

**The details of commissioning of infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra, is as under:-**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Total Track Commissioned</b>	<b>Average Track Commissioned</b>	<b>Increase w.r.t. average commissioning during 2009-14</b>
<b>2009-14</b>	<b>292 Km</b>	<b>58.4 km/year</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2014-24</b>	<b>1830 Km</b>	<b>183 km/year</b>	<b>3.13 times</b>

**In 2023-24 total 358 kms have been commissioned which is more than 6 times as compared to average commissioning during 2009-14.**

To reduce congestion in Mumbai suburban corridors (including Mumbai-Palghar), Mumbai Urban Transport Project(MUTP)-II costing ₹8,087 crore, MUTP-III costing ₹10,947 crore and MUTP-IIIA costing ₹33,690 crore have been sanctioned to meet the future demands of Passengers. These projects include following rail links in Mumbai Suburban Area:

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of project</b>	<b>Cost (₹ in crore)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>6th Line Mumbai Central-Borivali (30 km)</b>	<b>919</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Extension of Harbour Line Goregaon-Borivali (7 km)</b>	<b>826</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Virar-Dahanu Road 3rd &amp; 4th Line (64 km)</b>	<b>3587</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5th &amp; 6th Line CSTM-Kurla (17.5 km)</b>	<b>891</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Panvel-Karjat Suburban corridor (29.6 km)</b>	<b>2782</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Airoli-Kalwa (elevated) suburban corridor link (3.3 km)</b>	<b>476</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>5th &amp; 6th line Borivali-Virar (26 km)</b>	<b>2184</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>4th line between Kalyan-Asangaon (32 km)</b>	<b>1759</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>3rd &amp; 4th line between Kalyan-Badlapur (14.05 km)</b>	<b>1510</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Kalyan Yard-Segregation of Main Line &amp; Suburban</b>	<b>866</b>

Moreover, Vasai to Diva is already an existing double broad gauge line section. Construction of Western DFC on parallel alignment is also in progress. Further, construction of Vasai bye pass line (Double line) between Naigaon and Juchandra (5.73 Km) has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹175.99 Crores. Further extension of these corridors for future demands on suburban corridors is a continuous process.

**All MUTP projects have been sanctioned on 50:50 cost sharing basis between Ministry of Railways and Government of Maharashtra. However, Maharashtra Govt. was not providing requisite funds on time as per the commitment till 2022-23, resulting in delay in completion of the projects. Government of Maharashtra has started funding for MUTP-IIIA projects from April 2023.**

**Panvel-Virar new suburban corridor is also taken under consideration at a cost of ₹7,184 crore on 50:50 cost sharing basis with Govt. of Maharashtra as a part of Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP).**

**Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors like land acquisition by State Government, forest 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.**

**Various steps taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (ii) delegation of powers at field level, (iii) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels (iv) 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.**

**A number of steps have been taken to strengthen and modernize suburban Railway transport to ensuring safety and security such as work of procurement of rolling stock, trespass control on mid section under MUTP-III and III A Projects. Construction of wall/fencing at boundary is carried out at encroachment prone locations to prevent human run over in suburban section with multiple tracks.**

**Mail/Express trains are being escorted by RPF staff daily on Suburban section. Mixed train escorting comprising of male & female RPF staff has been introduced in trains over MMCT division to ensure safeguard of children and women passengers. Local trains are being escorted in night by GRP in Suburban area. Crime prevention and detection team is formed at all major stations for detection of crime.**

**CCTV cameras have been installed under Integrated Security System (ISS) on suburban section and round the clock surveillance is being done by trained RPF personnel. Twitter, online web portal/application and 139 helpline are available for assistance and forwarding the complaint. Rail Madad is operational round the clock to render assistance to needy passenger. Sakhi WhatsApp groups are formed to associate lady passengers to solve the security related problems faced by lady commuters. Talk back system is provided in ladies coaches to communicate with the guard of the train in cases of any emergency.**

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