

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 239
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2024**

SITAMARHI-SHEOHAR NEW RAIL LINE

†*239 SMT. LOVELY ANAND:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of Sitamarhi-Sheohar-Bapudham Motihari new railway line in East Central Railway Zone;**
- (b) whether the people of Sheohar region are deprived of railway services even after 75 years of independence;**
- (c) whether the survey of the said new railway line was conducted years ago;**
- (d) whether it is a fact that the same was approved in the Railway Budget 2006-07 and despite that the work has not started yet;**
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor;**
- (f) whether the work of land acquisition has also been completed for this purpose; and**
- (g) whether the cost of the said railway project escalated four times due to inordinate delay in implementation of the above rail project?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF
STARRED QUESTION NO. 239 BY SMT. LOVELY ANAND TO BE
ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.08.2024 REGARDING SITAMARHI-
SHEOHAR NEW RAIL LINE**

(a) to (g): Motihari-Sheohar-Sitamarhi (76.70 Km) New Rail Line Project was included in the budget. Considering low traffic projections, the project, could not be taken forward earlier.

However, for providing rail connectivity to district Headquarter of Sheohar, Detailed Estimate for part Sitamarhi-Sheohar (28 Km) section has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹566.83 crore and land acquisition for the same has been taken up. About 397 acres of land is required for this work and payment of ₹262 crore has been made to the Government of Bihar.

Further to assess latest traffic projection & cost, a Final Location Survey (FLS) of Motihari- Sheohar new Line has been taken up for preparation of Detailed Project Report(DPR).

As on 01.04.2024, 55 projects (31 New Lines, 02 Gauge Conversions and 22 Doubling), of total length of 5,064 Km, costing ₹79,356 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 1194 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹26,983 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024.

Average annual commissioning for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar is as under:-

Period	Total track Commissioned	Average track Commissioned	Increase w.r.t. average Commissioning during 2009-14
2009-14	318 Km	63.6 km per year.	-
2014-24	1669 Km	166.9 Km per year.	More than 2.5 times

Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar is as under:-

Year	Budget Outlay	% change w.r.t. average annual allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹1132 Cr./Yr	-
2023-24	₹8505 Cr.	More than 7.5 times

Completion of any Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forestry clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of State share by the 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 conditions, etc and all these factors affect the completion time of the project/s. With above constraints, every effort is being made to complete these projects at the earliest.

Various steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti Directorate in the Ministry and Gati Shakti units in field, (ii) prioritisation of projects, (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (iv) delegation of powers at field level, (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels (vi) 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.
