

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1507
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024**

RAIL SERVICE TO POONCH AND RAJOURI DISTRICT

1507. SHRI MIAN ALTAF AHMAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two border and Hilly districts namely Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu and Kashmir have been deprived any Rail service for a very long time and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to connect Poonch and Rajouri districts with Rail connectivity; and

(c) the details of the time required to connect the two districts with rail connectivity?

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.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1507 BY SHRI MIAN ALTAF AHMAD TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 31.07.2024 REGARDING RAIL SERVICE TO POONCH AND RAJOURI DISTRICT

(a) to (c): Railway projects are sanctioned and executed Zonal Railway wise and not State/District/City wise as Railway projects may span across State boundaries.

Survey for new line between Jammu and Poonch via Akhnur and Rajauri (223km) was carried out. The cost of project was assessed as ₹22,771 crore.

Sanctioning of Railway projects is a continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railway. Railway Infrastructure Projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes including connectivity to hilly and border areas, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

5 Nos of surveys (04 new line and 01 doubling) falling in the State of Jammu & Kashmir having a total length of 326 Km have been taken up under PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) for the development of multimodal connectivity infrastructure to various Economic Zones with an objective to have integrated planning, enhanced logistics efficiency and remove gaps for seamless movement of people, goods and services, connectivity to industrial clusters, ports, mines, power plants, agricultural zones including tourist and cultural places.

As on 01.04.2024, Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramula new Rail line project of total length 272 km, costing ₹41,000 crore, falling in the State of Jammu & Kashmir is in construction stage, out of which, 255 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹38,931 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects across Indian Railways. Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in the state of Punjab:-

Period	Average Outlay	%age more as compared to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹1044 Cr./Yr	-
2023-24	₹6,003 Cr.	Approx. 5.75 times
