GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 446 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024

PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN BIHAR

446. SHRI ARUN BHARTI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- a) the present status of various ongoing/pending railway projects in Bihar:
- b) the steps taken by the Railways to complete the said projects in a time bound manner;
- c) the number of railway projects in Bihar and Jamui Parliamentary constituency for which survey has been conducted and approved and for which work is not underway as yet;
- d) if so, the details thereof; and
- e) the efforts made by the Government to speed up the work?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTIONG 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. 446 BY SHRI ARUN BHARTI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.07.2024 REGARDING PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN BIHAR

(a) to (e): The Railway projects are surveyed/sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise/Constituency-wise as the Railway projects may span across State boundaries. However, 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 including those falling fully/partly in Jamui Constituency 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.

Railway Infrastructure Projects falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar are covered under East Central Railway (ECR), Eastern Railway (ER), North Eastern Railway (NER) and Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) Zones of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain.

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. avg. annual allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹1132 Cr.	-
2023-24	₹8505 Cr.	651% more

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.

In last 3 years (2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and current Financial Year i.e. 2024-25), 72 surveys (12 New line & 60 Doubling) of length 3,889 km falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar have been sanctioned and 21 surveys (11 New line & 10 Doubling) of length 1,340 km falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar have been completed.

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, augmentation of congested/saturated lines socioeconomic considerations etc. Depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

Jamui is already existing on Indian Railways network between Kiul and Jhajha on Delhi-Howrah Route. However, to further improve rail connectivity to Jamui region, 3 more railway projects namely (i) Bariarpur-Mananpur (68 Km) new line project costing ₹250 Cr., (ii) Nawada-Laxmipur (137 Km) new line project costing ₹3120 Cr. and (iii) Jhajha-Batia (20 Km) new line project costing ₹496 Cr. falling in close proximity of Jamui region have been sanctioned.

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.
