GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1586 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024

STATUS OF EIGHT NEW RAILWAY PROJECTS

†1586. SHRI BABU SINGH KUSHWAHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved eight new railway projects in August, 2024;
- (b) if so, the names of these projects, length and States where these projects are located;
- (c) the budget and time frame fixed for implementation of such new projects;
- (d) the steps being taken to maintain the future pace of works being undertaken by the Railways in view of the achievement made by the Government in connecting 5200 Kms the railway tracks in the year, 2023-24;
- (e) the time by which electrification of remaining network is likely to be completed after the completion of electrification of 62,119 Km broad gauge network by March, 2024;
- (f) whether the Wi-Fi facility has been started on 6112 railway stations across the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the plan of the Government to provide Wi-Fi facility on the remaining railway stations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1586 BY SHRI BABU SINGH KUSHWAHA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.12.2024 REGARDING STATUS OF EIGHT NEW RAILWAY PROJECTS

(a) to (g): Yes, Sir. The following projects for new rail line has been approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in August' 2024.

SN	Name of the Project	Cost
		(₹ in Crore)
1	Bikramshila-Katareah	2,171
2	Gunupur-Therubali	1,166
3	Malkangiri-Pandurangapuram via	3,592
	Bhadrachalam station	
4	Badampahar-Kendujhargarh	1,876
5	Junagarh-Nabarangpur	2,865
6	Buramara-Chakulia	1,460
7	Jaina - Jaigaon	5,804
8	Bangriposi-Gorumahisani	2,270

The completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost share by State Government in cost sharing projects, priority of 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. Various steps taken by the Government for speedy approval and implementation of Railway projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti units (ii) prioritisation of projects (iii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iv) delegation of powers at field level (v) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels, and (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. This has led to substantial increase in rate of commissioning since 2014.

Electrification done during 2014-24 and prior to 2014 is as under:-

Period	Electrification Done (in RKM)
Prior to 2014	21,801
2014-24	44,199

At present, about 97% of the total Broad Gauge network of the Indian Railways has been electrified.

Indian Railways has decided to provide free Wi-fi at all feasible Railway stations except halt stations. So far, Wi-fi facility has been provided at 6112 feasible Railway stations.
