

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2641
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024**

**CONSTRUCTION OF HOWRAH-MUMBAI RAILWAY LINE
IN CHHATTISGARH**

†2641. SHRI BRIJMOHAN AGRAWAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the construction work of the fourth line of Howrah Mumbai railway line in Chhattisgarh State has been allotted and if so, the detail of the commencement of construction work and time by which it is likely to be completed, time, agency and location-wise;**
- (b) the details of the percentage of the work done till date and the remaining work likely to be completed;**
- (c) the status of pending rail projects in Chhattisgarh such as construction of new railway lines, doubling or modernization of railway lines, project – wise; and**
- (d) whether the construction of new railway line or special freight corridor is proposed to facilitate industrial and mineral transportation in Chhattisgarh and if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is planned to be completed?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise as the Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of

Parliament, other public representatives, Railway's own operational requirement, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

Zone-wise/year-wise details of all Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

As on 01.04.2024, 25 projects(08 New Lines and 17 Doubling), covering total length of 2,731 Km length, costing Rs.37,018 crore, falling fully/partly in the state of Chhattisgarh, are at various stages of planning and implementation, out of which 882 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of Rs.14,919 crore has been incurred upto March' 2024.

The status of the work is summarized as:

Category	No. of projects	Total Length NL/GC/DL (in Km)	Length Commissioned till March'24 (Km)	Total Exp upto Mar'24 (Rs. in Cr)
New Lines	8	1358	184	6154
Doubling / Multitracking	17	1373	698	8765
Total	25	2731	882	14919

Further, 649 Km 3rd and 4th line is also sanctioned in Howrah-Mumbai route in the state of Chhattisgarh. 446 Km out of this 649 Km is already commissioned. Survey for construction of 105 Km 4th line on this busy route is also sanctioned.

Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in the State of Chhattisgarh is as under:

Period	Outlay
2009-2014	Rs.311 Cr/year
2024-2025	Rs.6922 Cr (More than 22 times)

The details of Commissioning/laying of new track falling fully/partly in the State of Chhattisgarh during 2009-14 and 2014-24 is as under:

Period	Total Length Commissioned	Average Length Commissioned
2009-14	32 km	6.4 km/Year
2014-24	999 km	99.9 km/Year (more than 15 times)

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.