

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3719
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024**

**FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK IN WEST BENGAL AND NORTH
EASTERN STATES**

3719. SMT. RACHNA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- a) the details of Railway projects for West Bengal and North Eastern States announced during the last 5 Financial Years' Railway Budgets but no fund allocated to start the construction work;**
- b) the expected time by which funds would be allocated for starting work for the announced projects;**
- c) the details of project surveyed for consideration and inclusion in the next Railway Budget;**
- d) the details of projects considered on 50:50 cost sharing basis with the State Governments and**
- e) the current status of those projects?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/District/Constituency wise as the Railways' projects

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may span across State boundaries. Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity, missinglinks 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.

During the last five years starting from 2019-20 to 2023-24 and current financial year 2024-25, total 14 Projects (01 New Line and 13 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal and Northeast Region having a total length of 941 Km at a cost of Rs. 22,754 crore have been sanctioned. Funds are allocated to Railway Projects as per their requirements.

West Bengal:

Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the West Bengal are covered under Eastern Railway, South Eastern Railway and Northeast Frontier Railway zones of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

As on 01.04.2024, 43 projects (13 New Lines, 04 Gauge Conversions and 26 Doubling), of total length of 4479 Km, costing ₹60,168 crore falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal including those which are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 1655 km length has been

commissioned and an expenditure of ₹20,434 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024. The summary is as under:-

| Category | No. of projects | Total Length (in Km) | Length Commissioned till March, 2024 (in Km) | Total Exp. upto March, 2024 (Rs. in Cr.) |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| New Lines | 13 | 1087 | 322 | 9774 |
| Gauge Conversion | 4 | 1201 | 854 | 3663 |
| Doubling/Multi-tracking | 26 | 2192 | 479 | 6997 |
| Total | 43 | 4479 | 1655 | 20434 |

The details of outlay for infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal is as under:-

| Period | Outlay |
|----------------|---|
| 2009-14 | Rs. 4,380 Cr./year |
| 2024-25 | Rs. 13,941 Cr. (More than 3 times) |

During last three years (i.e. 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-24 and current Financial Year i.e. 2024-25), total 30 Nos. of Surveys (03 New Line and 27 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal having a total length of 866 Km have been completed.

Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal is held up due to delay in land acquisition. Status of land acquisition in West Bengal is as under:

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Total Land required for Projects in West Bengal | 3040 Ha |
| Land Acquired | 640 Ha (21%) |
| Balance Land to be acquired | 2400 Ha (79%) |

Details of some major projects which are delayed due to land acquisition are as under:-

| SN | Name of the project | Total land required (in Ha) | Land acquired (in Ha) | Balance Land to be acquired (in Ha) |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Nabadwipghat-Nabadwipdham New Line (10 Km) | 106.86 | 0.17 | 106.69 |
| 2 | Chandaneshwar-Jaleswar new line (41 Km) | 158 | 0 | 158 |
| 3 | Naihati-Ranaghat-3rd line (36 Km) | 87.83 | 0.09 | 87.74 |
| 4 | Balurghat-Hilli new line (30 km) | 156.38 | 67.38 | 88.00 |
| 5 | Byepass at Sainthia (5 Km) & Sitarampur (7 Km) | 22.28 | 2.22 | 20.06 |

North Eastern Region:

Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the Northeast Region are covered under Northeast Frontier Railway zone of Indian Railways. Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

As on 01.04.2024, 18 Railway projects (13 New Lines and 05 Doubling), of total length of 1,368 Km, costing ₹74,972 crore falling fully/partly in the North Eastern Region, are at various stages of planning and implementation, out of which 313 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹40,549 crore has been incurred upto March 2024. The status of work is summarized as under:-

| Plan Head | No. of projects | Total Length (in Km) | Length Commissioned (in Km) | Expenditure upto March, 2024 (₹ n Cr.) |
|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| New Lines | 13 | 896 | 81 | 34616 |
| Doubling | 5 | 472 | 232 | 5933 |
| Total | 18 | 1368 | 313 | 40549 |

Average Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and other works, falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region is as under:-

| Period | Outlay |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| 2009-14 | ₹2,122 Crore/year |
| 2024-25 | ₹10,376 Crore (Nearly 5 times) |

Commissioning of infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of North Eastern Region is given below:

| Period | New Track Commissioned | Average Commissioning of new tracks |
|---------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2009-14 | 333 Km | 66.6 Km/year |
| 2014-24 | 1728 Km | 172.8 Km/year (Nearly 3 times) |

During last three years (i.e. 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-24 and current Financial Year i.e. 2024-25), total 13 Nos. of Surveys (11 New Line and 02 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the Northeast Region having a total length of 1066 Km have been completed.

There is no cost sharing projects falling fully/partly in West Bengal and North Eastern Region.

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.
