GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4323 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN KOSHI-SEEMANCHAL REGION

†4323. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made financial provision in the financial year 2025-26 for the construction of new railway lines from Kishanganj to Jalalgarh, Tejnarayanpur, via Ganga River-Sahebganj under the Northeast Fronteir Railway and Kursela-Bihariganj and Biharigang-Murliganj-Khurda-Virpur under the East Central Railway for increasing railway connectivity and regional development in Koshi-Seemanchal region;
- (b) if so, the provision for respective amount of funds made for the said railway routes; and
- (c) if not, the status of construction of the said railway line as on date?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): To improve regional connectivity, Bikramshila – Katareah New Line project (26.23 Km) costing ₹2549.17 crore with a Bridge over river Ganga has been sanctioned in August, 2024. This project is in vicinity of Tejnarayanpur – Sahibganj (at about 35 Km distance) which could not be taken forward due to low traffic projections. The outlay for the project has been kept as ₹64.05 crore in FY 2025-26. Kishanganj - Jalalgarh (50.87 Km) and Kursela - Bihariganj (58 Km) new line projects were not taken forward earlier. However, based on persistent demand of the public, it has been decided to take these projects forward. An allocation of ₹170.8 crore has been provided in FY 2025-26 for these projects.

Further, survey for construction of new line from Bihariganj to Birpur via Murliganj, Triveniganj, Khurda, Jadia, Bhimnagar (92 Km) has been sanctioned.

Besides, to improve connectivity in Kosi – Seemanchal Region following other projects are completed/ in progress:-

- Completed projects:-
 - 1. Sakri Nirmali and Saharsa Forbesganj Gauge Conversion Project.
 - 2. Kosi Bridge New Line Project.
 - 3. Katareah Kursela Doubling Project.
- On going Projects:-
 - **1. Supaul Araria New Line Project.**
 - 2. Araria Galgalia New Line Project.
 - 3. Jogbani Biratnagar New Line Project.
 - 4. Katihar-Mukuria and Katihar-Kumedpur Doubling Project.

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.

In last 3 years (2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and current Financial Year i.e. 2024-25), 72 No. Surveys (New line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling/Multitracking) of total length 3,889 Km falling fully/partly in the state of Bihar have been sanctioned.

As on 01.04.2024, 55 Railway 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, are at various stages of planning and implementation, out of which, 1,194 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 26,983 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024. The summary is as under:-

| Category | No. of projects | Total Length (in Km) | Length Commissioned (in Km) | Exp upto March 2024 (₹ in cr.) |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| New Lines | 31 | 2,712 | 464 | 13,629 |
| Gauge Conversion | 2 | 348 | 288 | 1,520 |
| Doubling/ Multitracking | 22 | 2,005 | 442 | 11,834 |
| Total | 55 | 5,064 | 1,194 | 26,983 |

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects. Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and other works, falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar is as under:-

| Period | Outlay | |
|---------|--|--|
| 2009-14 | ₹1,132 crore/year | |
| 2025-26 | 2025-26 ₹10,066 crore (Nearly 9 times) | |

Commissioning of sections (New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar during 2009-14 and 2014-2024 is as under:-

| Period | New track | Average complexity of your tracks | |
|---------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| | Commissioned | Average commissioning of new tracks | |
| 2009-14 | 318 Km | 63.6 Km/year | |
| 2014-24 | 1,669 Km | 166.9 Km/year (Nearly 3 times) | |

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