

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4355
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025**

NEW RAIL PROJECTS IN JHARKHAND AND WEST BENGAL

4355. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of new rail routes constructed in the country since 2014, including the regions covered and the purpose of their construction;**
- (b) whether the Government has any plans to further expand the railway network in underserved regions to enhance connectivity and improve economic opportunities particularly in the States of Jharkhand and West Bengal; and**
- (c) if so, whether the Government is considering the formation of a new rail route from Jhargram (Jharkhand) to Purulia (West Bengal), passing through towns like Chandil, Nimdi, Bodam, Katin, and Bandhwaan to boost regional connectivity and development, if so, the details of the status of the proposal?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) : Railway projects are surveyed/sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/District/Constituency 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

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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.

As on 01.04.2024, across Indian Railways, 488 Railway infrastructure projects (187 New Line, 40 Gauge Conversion and 261 Doubling) of total length 44,488 Km, costing approx. ₹7.44 lakh crore are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 12,045 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.92 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2024. The summary is as under:-

Category	No of Projects	Total Length NL/GC/DL (km)	Length Commissioned till Mar'24 (Km)	Total Exp upto Mar'24 (₹in Cr)
New Lines	187	20,199	2,855	1,60,022
Gauge Conversion	40	4,719	2,972	18,706
Doubling / Multitracking	261	19,570	6,218	1,13,742
Total	488	44,488	12,045	2,92,470

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.

The details of commissioning / laying of new track across Indian Railways is given below:-

Period	New track Commissioned	Average commissioning of new tracks
2009-14	7,599 Km	4.2 Km/day
2014-24	31,180 Km	8.54 Km/day (more than 2 times)

Jharkhand:

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

As on 01.04.2024, 32 projects (11 New Lines, 01 Gauge Conversions and 20 Doubling), of total length of 3070 Km, costing ₹52,885 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Jharkhand including those which are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 744 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹15,986 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024. The summary is as under:-

Category	No. projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned till March, 2024(in Km)	Total Exp. upto March, 2024 (Rs. in Cr.)
New Lines	11	1069	156	3549
Gauge Conversion	1	159	90	184
Doubling/Multi-tracking	20	1842	497	12254
Total	32	3070	744	15986

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

Period	Outlay
2009-14	₹457 Cr./Yr
2025-26	₹7306 Cr. (approx. 16 times)

The details of commissioning/ laying of new track falling fully/partly in the State of Jharkhand is as under:-

Period	New Track Commissioned	Average Commissioning of new tracks
2009-14	287 Km	57.4 Km
2023-24	124 Km	124 Km (More than 2 times)

During last three years (i.e. 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-24 and current Financial Year i.e. 2024-25), total 84 Nos. of Surveys (18 New Line, 66 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Jharkhand having a total length of 3386 Km have been sanctioned.

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
2025-26	Rs. 13,955 Cr. (More than 3 times)

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	4093 Ha
Land Acquired	1086 Ha (26.5%)
Balance Land to be acquired	3007 Ha (73.5%)

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

S N	Name of the project	Total land required (in Ha)	Land acquire d (in Ha)	Balance Land to be acquired (in Ha)
1	Nabadwipghat-Nabadwipdham New Line (10 Km)	106.71	0	106.71
2	Byepass at Sainthia (5 Km)	22.28	0	22.28
3	Deshpran-Nandigram (17 Km) New Linne	78.51	65.96	12.55

Further, works on these projects could not be taken forward due to protest by local people against land acquisition and non-cooperation of concerned authorities of the State Government of West Bengal.

Government of India is geared up to execute projects, however success depends upon the support of Government of West Bengal.

During last three years (i.e. 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-24 and current Financial Year i.e. 2024-25), total 95 Nos. of Surveys (10 New Line, 85 Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal having a total length of 4222 Km have been sanctioned.

Survey for new line between Jhargram and Purulia (125 Km) has been sanctioned. Survey work has been taken up.
