

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1809
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2025**

NEW RAILWAY PROJECTS IN SHRAVASTI AND BALRAMPUR

†1809. SHRI RAM SHIROMANI VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposed or approved railway projects are currently pending in the world famous Buddhist pilgrimage site in my Lok Sabha constituency such as in the border and socially backward aspirational districts like Shravasti and Balrampur;**
- (b) if so, the names of the said projects, date of proposal/sanction, estimated cost, progress made so far, status of expenditure and the main reasons for the projects lying pending;**
- (c) whether there is huge loss to economic development, employment, tourism and industrial prospects due to lack of railway connectivity in the said districts despite its being world famous pilgrimage site;**
- (d) if so, whether any specific proposal, timeline or budgetary provision has been made to expedite completion of the said pending projects; and**
- (e) the details thereof?**

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/UT-wise/District-wise/Constituency-wise as the Railway projects may span across State/UT/District/Constituency boundaries.

Contd...2/-

Khalilabad-Bahraich via Balrampur and Shravasti (240 km) new line project passes through Shravasti Lok Sabha Constituency. This project has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹4940 crore. The project has been notified as “Special Railway Project” for acquisition of land through State Government.

Execution of the work has been planned in 3 phases i.e. Khalilabad to Bansi (54 km), Bansi-Shravasti (113 km) and Shravasti to Bahraich (73 km). Major portion of land acquisition for Khalilabad to Bansi section has been completed and accordingly work has been taken up. An expenditure of ₹1067 crore has been incurred upto March 2025 and an outlay of ₹421 crore has been provided for this project for the year 2025-26.

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.

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.

Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, 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 etc. All these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project/s.
