

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 655
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025**

NEW RAILWAY LINES IN HILLY AND RURAL AREAS

†655. DR. FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the survey of new railway lines in hilly and rural areas is proposed, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) if so, whether previous surveys have been identified at present; and**
- (c) if so, the number of new Railway lines have been surveyed in the country?**

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 as the Railway' projects may span across State boundaries. Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity including hilly and rural areas, 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.

-:2:-

During the last three years i.e. FY 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and the current FY 2025-26, 267 New Line surveys of a total length of 25,740 km have been sanctioned throughout the country including hilly and rural areas.

Similarly, during the last three years i.e. FY 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and the current FY 2025-26, 171 New Line surveys of a total length of 14,480 km have been completed throughout the country including hilly and rural areas.

As on 01.04.2025, across Indian Railways, 431 Railway infrastructure projects (154 New Line, 33 Gauge Conversion and 244 Doubling) of total length 35,966 Km, costing approx. ₹6.75 lakh crore are sanctioned including hilly and rural areas, out of which, 12,769 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.91 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2025. The summary is as under:-

Category	No of Projects	Total Length NL/GC/DL (km)	Length Commissioned till Mar'25 (Km)	Total Exp upto Mar'25 (₹ in Crore)
New Lines	154	16,142	3,036	1,45,318
Gauge Conversion	33	4,180	2,997	22,753
Doubling / Multitracking	244	15,644	6,736	1,22,858
Total	431	35,966	12,769	2,90,929

-:3:-

Zone-wise/year-wise details of all Railway projects 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
2014-25	34,428 Km	8.57 Km/day (more than 2 times)
