GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.544 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2025

ONGOING RAILWAYS PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL

544. SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and status of ongoing railway projects in West Bengal;
- (b) the details of the amount allocated and spent by the Government on the said projects so far; and
- (c) the number of projects running behind schedule and details of the financial implications due to the delay?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) : West Bengal:

Budget allocation in the recent years has increased significantly. Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, 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)		

As on 01.04.2025, 42 projects (12 New Lines, 04 Gauge Conversions and 26 Doubling), of total length of 4402 Km, costing ₹67,991 crore falling fully/partly in the State of West Bengal are sanctioned, out of which, 1,702 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹23,410 crore has been incurred upto March, 2025. The summary is as under:-

Category	No. of projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned till March, 2025 (in Km)	Total Exp. upto March, 2025 (Rs. in Cr.)	
New Lines	12	1,032	337	11,368	
Gauge Conversion	4	1,201	854	3,673	
Doubling/ Multi- tracking	26	2,169	511	8,370	
Total	42	4,402	1,702	23,410	

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	4,564 Ha
Land Acquired	1,250 Ha (27%)
Balance Land to be acquired	3,314 Ha (73%)

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)	Amount Paid to State (in Cr.)
1.	Nabadwipghat- Nabadwipdham New Line Project	106.71	0	106.71	50
2.	Byepass at Sainthia	22.28	0	22.28	0
3.	Naihati – Ranaghat 3rd line	13.33	0	13.33	1.3

Further, Tarakeswar - Bishnupur (83 Km) New Line project is held up due to law and order issues in Goghat-Kamarpukur section falling in Hooghly district. The work was stopped by local villagers in about 900m length near Bhabadighi Pond. The work is held up since 2016.

Deshpran -Nandigram (18.5 km) Line was sanctioned in 2009-10 at cost of ₹ 121.44 crores. The entire Project length is located in East Midnapore District. The project could not progress due to problems in land acquisition and was kept in abeyance. In April 2023 it was decided to restart the work. However, Survey for Land Acquisition from Deshpran to 5.0 Km could not be completed due to law and order issues. As Deshpran is the connecting station, acquisition of this land is essential for commissioning of this project.

Sanction of any railway project depend upon many parameters/factors which include the following:

- Anticipated traffic projections and Remunerativeness of the proposed route
- First and last mile connectivity provided by the project
- Connection of missing links and providing additional route
- Augmentation of congested/saturated lines
- Demands raised by State Governments/Central Ministries/Public representatives,
- Railway's own operational requirements
- Socio-economic considerations
- Overall availability of funds

Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors which include the following:

- Land acquisition by State Government
- Forest clearance
- Shifting of infringing utilities
- Statutory clearances from various authorities
- Geological and topographical conditions of area
- Law and order situation in the area of project 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.
