

**1 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3031
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2016**

RAILWAY PROJECTS

**3031. SHRI ABHIJIT MUKHERJEE:
SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of construction of Bishnupur-Arambagh and Sonamukhi-Bardhaman railway line under eastern railway in West Bengal;**
- (b) whether Sonamukhi-Bardhaman line will reduce distance between Howrah and Bankura and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the work has been delayed/slowdown and if so, the reasons therefor along with the other railway lines running behind schedule in West Bengal; and**
- (d) the time by which construction work of these two lines will be completed and the same will be operational?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3031 BY SHRI ABHIJIT MUKHERJEE AND SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.03.2016 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS.

(a): Bishnupur-Arambagh new line section is a part of Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur (82 km) new line project. Work has been taken up from both ends. So far Bishnupur to Mayonapur (22 km) and Tarakeshwar to Arambagh (25 km) sections have been completed and commissioned. Further, 9 km track linking from Arambagh to Goghat has been completed and bridge-work and earthwork have been taken up in Goghat-Kamarpukur (6 km) section. In remaining section execution of work has not been taken up due to non acquisition of requisite land by the State Government.

There is no sanctioned project named Sonamukhi-Bardhaman railway line. However, Sonamukhi-Rainagar railway line has been completed and commissioned. As Rainagar-Bardhaman railway line already exists, this line has reduced distance from Howrah by around 40 km.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): Completion of Railway projects is dependent upon various factors like forestry clearances, complete handing over of encumbrance free land by the State Govt., shifting of utilities, local demand for additional accommodation works like Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges, etc. apart from availability of adequate funds. As many of these factors are beyond the control of the Ministry of Railways, it is not feasible to fix time lines for all the railway projects including those falling fully/partly in West Bengal. In absence of such timelines, it is not possible to ascertain delay in completion of ongoing railway projects.

(d): The target of completion of Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur new line project has not been fixed.