GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 668 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022

ONGOING/PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN ODISHA

668. SHRIMATI RAJASHREE MALLICK: SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the ongoing and pending railway projects in the country especially in Odisha including Jagatsinghpur project/area-wise;
- (b) the details of target fixed during the current year for the development of new lines/gauge conversion/doubling projects in Odisha including Jagatsinghpur;
- (c) the details of funds allocated/utilised for the development of railway projects in Odisha during the last three years;
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Railways to speed up these pending railway projects in Odisha;
- (e) the number of projects out of the above that are lagging behind the schedule; and
- (f) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 668 BY SHRIMATI RAJASHREE MALLICK AND SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.07.2022 REGARDING ONGOING/PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN ODISHA

(a) to (f): The Railway projects are sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise as the Railways' projects may span across State boundaries.

As on 01.04.2022 across Indian Railway, 452 Railway projects (New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling) of 49,323 Km length, costing approx. ₹7.33 lakh crore are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution, out of which 11,518 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.35 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. These include:-

- (i) 183 New line projects of 20,937 Km length, costing approx. ₹4.0 lakh crore, out of which 2,831 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹1.13 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.
- (ii) 42 Gauge Conversion projects of 5,667 Km length, costing ₹50,250 crore, out of which 3,488 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹19,235 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.
- (iii) 227 Doubling projects of 22,719 Km length, costing approx. ₹2.83 lakh crore, out of which 5,199 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹1.02 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.

Odisha:

As on 01.04.2022, 35 Projects (11 New Lines, 1 Gauge Conversion and 23 Doubling) of total length 4,609 Km, costing ₹55,759 crore, falling fully/partly in Odisha are under different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which, 1039 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹21,729 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.

Odisha is covered by East Coast Railway, South Eastern Railway and South East Central Railway. Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in > Ministry of Railways > Railway Board > About Indian Railways > Railway Board Directorates > Finance (Budget) > Rail Budget/Pink Book (Year) > Railway wise Works Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme.

The completion of any Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost share by State Government in cost sharing projects, 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 due to climatic conditions etc. and all these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project(s), which is finally worked out at the completion stage. As such the confirmed time frame for completion of projects cannot be ascertained at this stage. However, Railways is making all the efforts for expeditious completion of projects.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of Projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of Odisha, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹4,126 crore per year from ₹838 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 392% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹4,568 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (445% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹5,296 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (532% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹6,471 crore for Financial Year 2021-22 (672% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever Budget outlay of ₹9,734 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 1062% more than the Average Annual Budget outlay of 2009-14 (₹838 crore per year).

Various steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) setting up of Gati Shakti units (ii) prioritization 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.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in rate of commissioning of New Line, Gauge Conversion and doubling projects. During 2009-14, 267 km sections (56 km New line, 83 km Gauge conversion and 128 km Doubling), falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha, have been commissioned at an average rate of 53.40 km per year. These commissioning, during 2014-22 has been increased to 1135 km (264 km New line and 871km Doubling), at an average rate of 141.88 km per year, which is 166% more than average annual commissioning achieved during 2009-14 (53.40 km/year).
