

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5295
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2023**

COST ESCALATION PROJECTS

**5295. SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH:
SHRI D.K. SURESH:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are a number of railway projects, which were announced but has not seen the light of the day;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the cost of the project escalates if there is delay in implementation; and**
- (d) if so, the details and the response of the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(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. 5295 BY SHRI SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH AND SHRI D.K. SURESH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 05.04.2023 REGARDING COST ESCALATION PROJECTS

(a) to (d): The Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise as the Railways' projects may span across state boundaries. Railway projects are included in the Budget subject to requisite approvals. Sanctioning of projects is a continuous and ongoing process.

Zonal Railway-wise details of New line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects sanctioned during the last three years i.e. FY 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 (upto 29th March, 2023) are as under:-

Zonal Railway	No. of New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects sanctioned.
Central Railway	03
Eastern Railway	01
East Central Railway	06
East Coast Railway	06
Northern Railway	05
North Central Railway	13
North Eastern Railway	02
Northeast Frontier Railway	03
North Western Railway	12
Southern Railway	05
South Central Railway	06
South Eastern Railway	05
South East Central Railway	12
South Western Railway	07
Western Railway	21
West Central Railway	02

As on 01.04.2022, across Indian Railways, 452 Railway Infrastructure projects (183 New Line, 42 Gauge Conversion and 227 Doubling) of total length 49,323 Km, 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.

Zone-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 (RSP).

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, priority of 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). With above constraints, every effort is being made to execute the project(s) expeditiously.

Various steps taken by the Government for speedy sanction and implementation of rail 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.

The Average Annual Budget allocation for New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling Projects across Indian Railways during 2014-19 increased to ₹26,026 crore per year from ₹11,527 crore per year during 2009-14 (126% more than average annual budget allocation during 2009-14). The Annual Budget allocation for these projects increased to ₹39,836 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (246% more than Average Annual Budget Allocation during 2009-14), ₹43,626 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (278% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14), ₹56,716 crore for Financial year 2021-22 (392% more than Average Annual Budget Allocation during 2009-14) and ₹67,001 crore in Financial Year 2022-23 (481% more than average annual budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2023-24, highest ever budget outlay of ₹67,199 crore has been allotted for these works, which is 483 % more than Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14 (₹11527 Crore/Year).

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During 2014-22, across Indian Railway, 20,628 km sections (3,970 km New Line, 5,507 km Gauge Conversion and 11,151 km Doubling) has been commissioned at an average of 2,579 km/year which is 70% more than the average annual commissioning during 2009-14 (1,520 km/year). During the FY 2022-23 (upto Feb, 2023) 4,443 km sections (1,630 km New Line, 159 km Gauge Conversion and 2,654 km Doubling) has been commissioned.
