

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 215  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2023**

**RISHIKESH-KARNAPRAYAG RAIL LINE**

**†\*215. DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL “NISHANK”:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the projects completed or being implemented by the Railways in Uttarakhand since the year 2014 and the current progress of the said projects;**
- (b) whether projects are being run under the Corporate Social Responsibility for the welfare of the farmers whose land was acquired for the Rishikesh-Karnaprayag rail line;**
- (c) if so, the names of the developmental activities undertaken along with the funds allocated for the same; and**
- (d) the time limit set for completing the Rishikesh-Karnaprayag rail line?**

**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.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 215 BY DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK" TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.03.2023 REGARDING RISHIKESH-KARNAPRAYAG RAIL LINE.**

**(a) : Railway projects are sanctioned and executed Zonal Railway wise and not State wise as Railway projects may span across State boundaries.**

**As on 01.04.2022, 3 New Line projects covering total length of 216 Km costing ₹ 18,554 crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Uttarakhand are under different stages of planning/approval/execution, out of which 6 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 5,933 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. These includes:**

**i) Rishikesh-Karnaprayag (125 Km) New rail line costing ₹ 16,216.3 Crore.**

**ii) Deoband-Roorkee (27 Km) New rail line costing ₹ 791 Crore.**

**iii) Kichha-Khatima (63 Km) New rail line costing ₹ 1546.24 Crore**

**Railway Infrastructure Projects falling fully/partly in the State of Uttarakhand are covered under Northern Railway (NR) and North Eastern Railway (NER) Zones of Indian Railways.**

**Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of Uttarakhand, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹ 672 crore per year from ₹ 187 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 259% more than Average Annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹ 903 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (383% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹ 1780 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (852% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) , ₹ 4573 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (2345% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹ 4,948 crore in Financial Year 2022-23 (2546% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2023-24, highest ever Budget allocation of ₹ 5,004 crore has been proposed for these projects, which is 2576% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14 (₹ 2043 crore per year).**

**During 2014-22, 69 Km section (6 Km New Lines, 36 Km Gauge Conversion and 27 Km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Uttarakhand have been commissioned at an average rate of 8.63 Km/year.**

**Railway projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations etc.**

**Rishikesh-Karanprayag new line project was sanctioned in budget 2010-11. Anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 16,216 crore. Work on the entire project has been taken up. So far an expenditure of ₹ 11,237 crore has been incurred till date. Yog Nagri Rishikesh to Virbhadra (5.7 km) section has been commissioned in March, 2020. Beyond km 6.0, the alignment is mostly in tunnels. Work at all tunnels and major bridges have been taken up.**

**(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Executing Agency RVNL has taken up the developmental works of promoting Bee keeping enterprise and Conservation of natural resources and maintaining quality of soil and water under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). ₹ 79.48 Lac has been allotted in financial year 2022-23.**

**(d) Completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like cooperation of State Governments in quick land acquisition, forestry clearance by officials of forest department, 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 due to climatic conditions, etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project/s. With these constraints, Railways are making all efforts to complete these projects at the earliest.**

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