

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1674
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2023**

RAIL FACILITY IN ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS

†1674. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the projects being implemented by the Railways in Malwa-Nimar region and the future action plan thereof;**
- (b) the projects under consideration of the Railways to provide rail facility in tribal dominated area under Khargone-Barwani Parliamentary Constituency;**
- (c) whether any special rail project is proposed to connect Nimar – Khargone – Barwani – Dhar – Alirajpur region and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the efforts being made by the Government to provide rail facility in the aspirational districts ?**

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. 1674 BY SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH PATEL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 13.12.2023 REGARDING RAIL FACILITY IN ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS

(a) to (d): Projects are not sanctioned State-wise/District-wise/Region-wise/Constituency-wise, but sanctioned Zone wise as Indian Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. However, a major project 'Indore Budni New Line (205 Km)' is being implemented by Railways to provide connectivity in Malwa Nimar Region. This project passes through Indore, Dewas and Sehore district of Madhya Pradesh.

As on 01.04.2023, 32 Railway infrastructure projects (08 new lines, 02 gauge conversion and 22 doubling), costing ₹ 77,798 crore for 5,539 km length falling fully/partly in Madhya Pradesh including Malwa Nimar and tribal dominated areas are under different stages of planning/approval/execution. Out of which 1,557 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 31,111 crore has been incurred upto March 2023. These include:

- 08 New Line Projects covering total length of 1,979 km at a cost of ₹ 32,226 crore, out of which 400 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 8,611 crore has been incurred upto March 2023.**
- 02 Gauge Conversion Projects covering total length of 780 km at a cost of ₹ 9,297 crore, out of which 283 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 4,040 crore has been incurred upto March 2023.**

- **22 Doubling Projects covering total length of 2780 km at a cost of ₹ 36,275 crore, out of which 874 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 18,460 crore has been incurred upto March 2023.**

Railway projects in Madhya Pradesh are covered by North Central Railway, West Central Railway, East Central Railway, Western Railway, Central Railway, South Central Railway and South East Central Railway Zones of Indian Railways. The details of Railway projects including allotment of funds and expenditure project-wise and Zonal Railway wise are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allotment for infrastructure projects and commensurate commissioning. Average annual Budget allocation for infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in the state of Madhya Pradesh is as under:-

Period	Average Outlay	Percentage more as compared to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹ 632 Cr./Yr	-
2023-24	₹ 13,607 Cr.	2053% more

During 2014-23, 1741 km sections (293 km New line, 636 km Gauge conversion and 812 km Doubling), falling fully/partly in the state of Madhya Pradesh, have been commissioned at an average rate of 193.44 km per year, which is 567% more than average annual commissioning achieved during 2009-14 (29 km per year).

To provide rail connectivity in tribal dominated area, survey for Khandwa- Dhar via Khargaone & Barwani (260 Km) new line has been sanctioned and field survey work has been completed. Work on Dhar – Alirajpur section (109 Km) has been taken up as a part of Chota Udepur – Dhar (157 Km) new line project costing ₹ 1794 crore.

The timely completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities (both underground and over ground), 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, encountering unforeseen conditions like earthquake, excessive rains, situation and conditions of working agencies/contractors etc. and all these factors affect the completion of the project.
