

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 22
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024**

EXTENSION OF RAILWAY TRACKS

***22. DR. KIRSAN NAMDEO:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of new railway tracks extended, the number of trains started and the amount spent in this regard in the country particularly in Gadchiroli, Maharashtra since the year 2014 till date, year-wise;**
- (b) the number of new projects announced since 2014 till date in the country particularly for Gadchiroli; and**
- (c) the number and details of projects, out of these projects, sanctioned and the budget allocation made in this regard?**

ANSWER

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 22 BY DR. KIRSAN NAMDEO TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.07.2024 REGARDING EXTENSION OF RAILWAY TRACKS

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

As on 01.04.2024, across Indian Railways including Gadchiroli, 488 Railway Infrastructure projects (187 New Line, 40 Gauge Conversion and 261 Doubling) of total length 44,488 Km, costing approx. ₹7.44 lakh crore are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 12,045 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.92 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2024.

Zone-wise/year-wise details of all Railway Projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website.

To cater to the needs of passengers, 1926 train services were introduced in Indian Railways (IR) during the period 2014-15 to 2023-2024. However, as the Railway network straddles across State/District boundaries, trains are introduced, as per network requirement, across such boundaries. Wadsa station, which primarily caters to the needs of passengers of Gadchiroli District of Maharashtra, is presently being served by 15 train services (in single). Besides, passengers of Wadsa may also avail services from Nagbhir, which is 30 km away. Moreover, introduction of train services is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification etc.

The Average Annual Budget allocation for New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling Projects across Indian Railways is given below:

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t. average allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹11,527 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹67,199 crore	Nearly 6 times

The details of commissioning of New Lines, Gauge Conversion and Doubling sections across Indian Railways is given below:-

Period	Total Length Commissioned	Average Length Commissioned	Increase w.r.t. average commissioning during 2009-14
2009-14	7,599 km	4.2 km/day	-
2014-24	31,180 km	8.54 km/day	More than 2 times

MAHARASHTRA

As on 01.04.2024, 41 projects (16 New Lines, 02 Gauge Conversions and 23 Doubling), of total length of 5,877 Km, costing ₹81,580 crore falling fully/partly in Maharashtra including Gadchiroli are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which 1,926 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹31,236 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024.

Railway infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra including Gadchiroli are covered under Central Railway, South Central Railway, South East Central Railway, South Western Railway and Western Railway Zones of Indian Railways.

Average Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/ partly in Maharashtra is as under:

Period	Average Outlay	Percentage more as compared to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹1,171 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹13,539 Crore	Nearly 11.6 times

The details of commissioning of New Lines, Gauge Conversion and Doubling sections falling fully/partly in the state of Maharashtra is as under:

Period	Total Length Commissioned	Average Length Commissioned	Change w.r.t. average commissioning during 2009-14
2009-14	292 km	58.4 km/Year	-
2014-24	1,830 km	183 km/Year	About 3.13 times

(b) & (c): During the last 10 years i.e. from FY 2014-15 till FY 2023-24, across Indian Railways, 401 Projects (74 New Line, 31 Gauge Conversion and 296 Doubling) of total length 30,059 km costing approx. ₹3.67 lakh crore have been included in the budget, out of which 37 projects (12 New Line, 01 Gauge Conversion and 24 Doubling) of total length of 5284 Km, costing ₹60,041 Crore fall fully / partly in the State of Maharashtra including Gadchiroli, whereas, during the last 10 years i.e. FY 2014-15 till FY 2023-24, across Indian Railways, 309 projects (New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling) of total length 19,748 km, costing approx. ₹2.32 lakh crore have been sanctioned which include 26 projects (New Line, Gauge Conversion

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and Doubling) of total length of 3192 km, costing ₹32,250 crore falling fully/partly in Maharashtra including Gadchiroli.

Wadsa-Gadchiroli (52 km) new rail line project has been sanctioned on 50:50 cost sharing basis with Government of Maharashtra. An expenditure of ₹337.36 crore has been incurred on the project till March'2024. In 2023-24 complete land (220.46 Ha) has been acquired and Forest/Wildlife clearance have been received.

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).
