

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1737
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019**

UNDER-CONSTRUCTION ARARIA SEEMANCHAL RAILWAY LINE

†1737. SHRI SARFARAZ ALAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the time by which the doubling and electrification of under construction Araria-Seemanchal railway line and Katihar to Jogbani single line connecting Bihar and Nepal Border is likely to be done;**
- (b) whether these works are being performed as per scheduled time-limit;**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor, project-wise;**
- (d) whether the Seemanchal express is likely to be substituted by a new train and plied from either New Delhi or Old Delhi Railway Station in place of Anand Vihar Station; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the same is likely to get started?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a): No doubling work of Araria-Seemanchal is sanctioned. However, new Broad Gauge single line from Araria to Galgalia (110.15 km) has been taken up. Revised Estimate of ₹2132.03 crore has been sanctioned on 30.05.2018 for this project. Land acquisition has been taken up.

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Further, Gauge Conversion of Katihar-Jogbani (109 km) single line has been completed and commissioned. No doubling of this section is sanctioned.

Electrification of Katihar-Purnea-Araria Court-Jogbani (109 route kilometers) rail line has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹109.91 crore in September, 2018. This section is planned for commissioning on electric traction during 2020-21.

(b) & (c): Completion of project depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, statutory clearances, shifting of utilities etc. As such no time frame for completion of the project can be given.

(d) & (e): Presently, 12487 / 12488 Seemanchal Express operates between Anand Vihar (T) and Jogbani / Radhikapur. Owing to operational constraints, at present, there is no proposal to operate this service from New Delhi or Delhi Railway Station.
