

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.622
ANSWERED ON 23.07.2021

SURVEY TO EXTEND RAILWAY NETWORK TO UNCONNECTED AREAS

622. LT.GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.):
SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey on the areas that are not connected with railway network in the country so far, if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise and zone-wise;
- (b) the details of projects started by Government to connect such areas to the railway network during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise and zone-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to connect each and every area of the country to railway network along with the achievements thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS 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 UNSTARRED QUESTION. NO. 622 BY LT.GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.) AND SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 23.07.2021 REGARDING SURVEY TO EXTEND RAILWAY NETWORK TO UNCONNECTED AREAS

(a): Survey for new railway lines in areas which are not connected by Railway network is a continuous and ongoing process of Indian Railways and are done based on demands raised by State Governments, Ministries of Central Government, Members of Parliament, other elected representatives, organizations/rail users and Railways' own operational requirements. Presently, 166 number of surveys for New Lines having a total length of 17,930 km have been taken up and are in different stages of progress on Indian Railways.

(b): The Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State/UT-wise as the Indian Railways' network spans across various State boundaries. During the last 3 years i.e. 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and the current year, total 21 New Line projects have been included in Budget subject to requisite approvals. Presently, there are 187 New line projects of 21,037 km length, costing ₹4,04,986 crore which are in various stages of planning/execution and approval, out of which commissioning of 2,621 km length has been achieved and expenditure of ₹1,05,591 crore has been incurred upto March, 2021. These will provide connectivity to areas which are not connected with Railway network. Details of New line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects zone wise included in the Budget subject to requisite approvals during the last three years i.e. FY 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 is as under:-

Zonal Railway	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Central Railway	4	2	0
Eastern Railway	0	1	0
East Central Railway	4	5	0
East Coast Railway	1	2	0
Northern Railway	2	8	0
North Central Railway	10	1	0
North Eastern Railway	0	1	0
Northeast Frontier Railway	0	2	1
North Western Railway	2	5	0
Southern Railway	2	4	0
South Central Railway	1	3	0
South Eastern Railway	5	4	0
South East Central Railway	1	1	0
South Western Railway	6	3	0
Western Railway	3	2	0
West Central Railway	0	2	0

No New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling project has been included in the budget in the current year upto June, 2021.

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(c): Based on Survey reports, 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. depending upon throw forward of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

During 2014-19, 13,124 km length (3035 km New Lines, 3,993 km Gauge Conversion and 6,096 km Doubling) has been commissioned which is 73% more than the commissioning during 2009-14 (7,599 km). During 2019-20, 2,226 km length (360 km New Lines, 408 km Gauge Conversion and 1458 km Doubling) has been commissioned which is 46% more than average annual commissioning during 2009-14 (1,520 km/year). During 2020-21, 2,370 km length (286 km New Lines, 470 km Gauge Conversion and 1614 km Doubling) has been commissioned which is 56% more than average annual commissioning during 2009-14 (1,520 km/year).
