GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1253 ANSWERED ON 11.02.2022

PROGRESS OF DOUBLE TRACK WORK IN NFR

1253. SHRI AJIT KUMAR BHUYAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of progress of double track work from New Bongaigaon to Kamakhya under North East Frontier Railway (NFR);
- (b) the estimated cost for this project and how much amount has been expended till now; and
- (c) the target date of completion of this project and when it is expected to be completed?

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. 1253 BY SHRI AJIT KUMAR BHUYAN ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING PROGRESS OF DOUBLE TRACK WORK IN NFR

(a) to (c): New Bongaigaon – Kamakhya via Goalpara (176 km) doubling project was sanctioned in 2015-16. Anticipated cost of the project is ₹2950 crore. An expenditure of ₹1965 crore has been incurred till date and an outlay of ₹310 crore has been provided for 2021-22 and ₹500 crore has been proposed for 2022-23.

New Bongaigaon – Abhyapuri (17.49 km) section has been commissioned. Works have been taken up in remaining length in available land.

The completion of Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest 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 considerations etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project. As such, confirmed completion time of project cannot be ascertained at this stage. Nevertheless, every effort is being made to execute the project expeditiously.

Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in North Eastern Region, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹5,531 crore per year from ₹2,122 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 161% more than average annual Budget allocation during 2009-14. These allocations have been increased to ₹4,909 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (131% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹4,669 crore in Financial Year 2020-21 (120% more than the average annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2021-22, highest ever budget outlay of ₹7,292 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 244% more than the average annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14 (₹2,122 crore per year).

During 2009-14, 333 km sections (66 km New Line, 257 km Gauge conversion and 10 km Doubling) falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region including Assam have been commissioned at an average rate 66.6 km per year.

During 2014-21, 1356 km sections (270 km of New Line, 972 km of Gauge Conversion and 114 km Doubling) falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region including Assam have been commissioned at an average rate 193.71 km per year, which is 191% more than commissioning during 2009-14 (66.6 km per year).