

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3491
ANSWERED ON 01.04.2022

RAILWAY PROJECTS ALLOCATED TO KARNATAKA

3491 SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the progress of South Western Railway (SWR) projects allocated to Karnataka have been halted;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the delay;
- (c) the impending problems in this regard;
- (d) where are the approvals stuck;
- (e) whether Government of Karnataka has provided all the information, approvals and reports as required by the Railways;
- (f) whether Railways reviewed this; and
- (g) the increased cost of implementation compared to the estimated, from the time of initiation of the project?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3491 BY SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 01.04.2022 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS ALLOCATED TO KARNATAKA

(a) to (g): Railway projects are sanctioned and taken up Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise, as the Indian Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2021, 31 Projects (20 New Line and 11 Doubling), of total length 4,412 Km, costing ₹47,769 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka are under different stage of planning/approval/execution by South Western Railways, out of which 1,064 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹12,580 crore has been incurred upto March 21. These include-

- 20 new line projects of total length 2,428 Km, costing ₹31,799 crore, out of which 284 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹4,803 crore has been incurred upto March, 2021.
- 11 doubling projects of total length 1,714 Km, costing ₹15,970 crore, out of which 780 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹7,777 crore has been incurred upto March, 2021.

Railway Zone-wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in > Ministry of Railways > Railway Board > About Indian Railways > Railway Board Directorates > Finance (Budget) > Rail Budget/Pink Book (Year) > Railway wise Works Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in budget outlay for infrastructure projects and safety works and commensurate commissioning. Average annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and safety works, falling fully/ partly in State of Karnataka, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹ 2,702 crore per year from ₹ 835 crore per year during 2009-14, which is 224% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14. Budget allocation of ₹ 3,386 crore for financial year 2019-20 (306% more than average annual allocation of 2009-14), ₹ 4,220 crore for financial year 2020-21 (405% more than average annual budget allocation of 2009-14) has been provided for these works. For financial year 2021-22, highest ever budget outlay of ₹4,297 crore has been provided for these works, which is 415% more than average annual budget outlay of 2009-14.

...2/-

During 2014-21, 1,162 Km sections (281 Km of New line and 881 Km of Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka have been commissioned at an average rate 166 km per year, which is 47% more commissioning than during 2009-14 (113 Km/Yr).

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 cost sharing authority in cost sharing project(s), statutory clearances from various authorities, court cases, shifting of infringing utilities, geological and topographical conditions of area of project(s) site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. All these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project(s). Which is finally worked out at the time of commissioning. However, Railway is making all the efforts for timely commissioning of projects.

Various steps being taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) prioritisation of projects (ii) substantial increase in allocation of funds on priority projects (iii) delegation of powers at field level (iv) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels, and (v) regular follow up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition, forestry and Wildlife clearances and for resolving other issues pertaining to projects.
