

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 782
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2023

CONSTRUCTION OF DOUBLE TRACK RAILWAY LINE IN ASSAM

782 SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of construction of double track railway line in Assam and conversion on NBQ (New Bongaigaon) workshop into a full-fledged Coach-cum-Wagon Factory; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to complete the double track work in Assam in a time-bound manner?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 782 BY SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 08.12.2023 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF DOUBLE TRACK RAILWAY LINE IN ASSAM

(a) and (b): Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise or Region-wise as Indian Railways' projects may span across State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2023, 19 Railway infrastructure projects (14 New Line and 05 Doubling), of total length of 1,909 km costing ₹81,941 crore falling fully/partly in North Eastern Region including Assam, are in planning/approval/construction stages, out of which 482 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹37,713 crore has been incurred upto March 2023. These include-

- (i) 14 New Line projects of total length of 1,181 km costing ₹66,417 crore, out of which 361 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹33,333 crore has been incurred upto March 2023.
- (ii) 05 Doubling projects of total length of 728 km costing ₹15,524 crore, out of which 121 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹4,380 crore has been incurred upto March 2023.

The process of augmentation of capacity, upgradation/modernization of facilities of workshops is an ongoing process. Presently, following works for capacity augmentation and upgradation/modernization of facilities of the carriage & wagon (C&W) repairing shop, New Bongaigaon Northeast Frontier Railway are sanctioned:

| SN | Name of Work | Sanction cost (in ₹ crore) |
|----|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | New Bongaigaon workshop: extension of wagon support shop. | 4.89 |
| 2 | Proposed augmentation of POH facilities of wheel turning shop for out-turn up to 200 wagons per month at C&W workshop, New Bongaigaon. | 6.77 |
| 3 | Proposed augmentation of POH facilities up to 200 wagons per month at C&W workshop, New Bongaigaon. | 11.55 |
| 4 | Proposed augmentation of heavy corrison facilities for wagon POH to uplift out-turn up to 200 wagons per month at C&W workshop, New Bongaigaon. | 3.36 |
| 5 | New Bongaigaon-LHB bogie disassembly & assembly line with industry 4.0 IOT enable on turn key basis | 14.84 |
| 6 | New Bongaigaon- proposed construction of shed for executing conversion of ICF coaches into NMGHS coaches having comprehensive facilities of modification, lifting and lowering. | 12.47 |

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Railway projects falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region are covered under Northeast Frontier Railway Zone. 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 fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects across Indian Railways. Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works falling fully/partly in North Eastern Region is as under:-

| Period | Budget Outlay | Percentage change as compared to average annual allocation during 2009-14 |
|---------------|----------------------|--|
| 2009-14 | ₹2,122 crore/year | - |
| 2014-23 | ₹6,083 crore/year | 187% more |
| 2023-24 | ₹10,269 crore | 384% more |

During 2014-23, 1,618 km sections (377 km New Line, 972 km Gauge Conversion and 269 km Doubling), falling fully/ partly in North Eastern Region have been commissioned at an average rate of 179.78 km per year, which is 170% more than average annual commissioning during 2009-14 (66.6 km per year).

Various steps taken by the Government for effective and speedy implementation of rail projects include (i) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (ii) delegation of powers at field level, (iii) close monitoring of progress of project at various levels (iv) 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.
