

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 571
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

571# SHRI HARSH MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of various ongoing/pending railway projects in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) the steps taken by Government so far to ensure smooth completion of the said projects;
and
- (c) whether Government has set any timeline for timely completion of the said projects; if so,
the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING 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. 571 BY SHRI HARSH MAHAJAN ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 26.07.2024 REGARDING PENDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

(a) to (c): As on 01.04.2024, 04 New line of total length 255 km, costing ₹13,168 crore, falling fully/partly in the state of Himachal Pradesh are in planning/approval/construction stage, out of which, 61 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹6225 crore has been incurred upto March, 2024.

Two (2) new line projects namely Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63.5 km) and Chandigarh-Baddi (30 km) passing fully/partly in Himachal Pradesh have been sanctioned on cost sharing basis with state Government of Himachal Pradesh.

In Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63.5 km) new line project, 79.57 Ha land out of total required 124.02 Ha land in Himachal Pradesh has been acquired. The work on available land has been taken up. So far, an expenditure of ₹5205 crore has been incurred on this Project and ₹1351 crore is outstanding with Government of Himachal Pradesh.

In Chandigarh- Baddi (30 km) new line project, land has been acquired. The work has been taken up. So far, an expenditure of ₹ 727 crore has been incurred on this Project and ₹ 146 crore is outstanding with Government of Himachal Pradesh.

The progress of these projects is affected due to non-fulfillment of commitments by the State Govt. The support of State Govt is required to expedite the Projects.

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

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 the state of Himachal Pradesh:-

Period	Average Outlay	%age more as compared to average allocation during 2009-14
2009-14	₹108 Cr./Yr	-
2023-24	₹1838 Cr.	More than 17 times
2024-25	₹ 2698 Cr.	Approx. 25 times

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 State Government in cost sharing projects, priority of projects, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project(s) site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. and all these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project(s).
