

To Improve Rail Connectivity in the Border Region, DPRs for Qazigund – Srinagar – Budgam Doubling (118 km) & Baramulla to Uri New Line (40 km) Prepared

USBRL Project Emerges as a Catalyst for Employment, Socio-Economic Upliftment, and Tourism Expansion

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To extend the rail connectivity of existing Srinagar – Baramulla section, a survey for Sopore to Kupwara (34 km) New Line has been sanctioned and the Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been prepared. However, the project has been dropped because it was found to be infeasible. To further improve rail connectivity, in the Border region, the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of following projects have also been prepared:

- Qazigund – Srinagar – Budgam doubling (118 km)
- Baramulla to Uri new line (40 km)

 Baramulla-Srinagar रेल लाइन को और strengthen करेंगे
 Border areas को जोड़ने के लिए Rajouri-Poonch rail line पर काम जारी pic.twitter.com/xYsUPek2Ee

— Ashwini Vaishnaw (@AshwiniVaishnaw) February 6, 2026

After preparation of DPR, sanctioning of project requires consultation with various stake-holders including State Governments and necessary approvals viz. appraisal of NITI Aayog, Ministry of Finance etc. As sanctioning of projects is a continuous and dynamic process, exact timelines cannot be fixed.

Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project of total length 272 Km has been recently commissioned. USBRL project covers the districts of Udhampur, Reasi, Ramban, Srinagar, Anantnag, Pulwama, Budgam and Baramulla of Jammu and Kashmir.

The USBRL project has made substantial socio-economic contributions to the region, with employment generation being a significant aspect of its impact. The project has generated more than 5 Cr. man-days of employment.

Another crucial facet of the USBRL Project's socio-economic development efforts has been the construction of over 215 km of approach roads, which include construction of a tunnel and 320 small bridges. This road network has helped the local population in improvement of their

connectivity with other areas and also improvement in socio-economic states.

With the all-weather, reliable and comfortable rail connectivity of valley portion with rest of the Indian Railway network, tourism will get a big boost.

This information was provided by the Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & InformationTechnology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, in a reply to a question in Rajya Sabha today.

Dharmendra Tewari/ Dr. Nayan Solanki

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