

Railway infrastructure projects to strengthen connectivity across Marathwada and adjacent regions

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The Indian Railways is undertaking and planning several infrastructure projects aimed at improving rail connectivity across Marathwada and adjoining regions of Maharashtra.

Pandharpur, Kurduwadi, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar and Shegaon are already connected to the Indian Railway Network through key routes via Daund, Ahilyanagar, Manmad and Jalgaon. Several important locations in the region are also located in close proximity to existing railway stations. Paranda is approximately 21 km from Kurduwadi Railway Station, while Bhoom is about 37 km from Barshi Town Railway Station. Similarly, Manjarsumbha and Gevrai are approximately 20 km and 31 km, respectively, from Beed Railway Station, which serves as an important transportation hub for the surrounding areas.

To further strengthen connectivity, the following railway works have been sanctioned or completed:

Major Railway Projects

1. Daund–Manmad Doubling (236 km)

Project Cost: ₹3,426 crore

The doubling project has recently been commissioned, significantly strengthening rail capacity and connectivity along the route.

2. Ahilyanagar–Beed–Parli Vaijnath New Line (261 km)

Project Cost: ₹5,800 crore

The Ahilyanagar–Beed–Badwani section, covering 201 km, has been commissioned. Significant progress has also been made on the balance section. Of the 371 hectares of land required, 366 hectares have been acquired. Further, 19 of the 20 major bridges have been completed, along with 11 of the 23 Road Over Bridges (ROBs).

Final Location Surveys Sanctioned for New Railway Lines

To further improve rail connectivity in the region, Final Location Surveys (FLS) have also been sanctioned for the following projects:

1. Jalna–Khamgaon New Line (162 km)

The Final Location Survey has been completed and the Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been prepared.

2. Pune–Ahilyanagar New Line (134 km)

The Final Location Survey has been completed and the Detailed Project Report has been prepared.

3. Dharashiv-Beed-Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar New Line (240 km)

Final Location Survey has been sanctioned for preparation of the Detailed Project Report. The proposed alignment passes through Gevrai.

4. Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar-Ahilyanagar New Line (110 km)

Final Location Survey has been sanctioned for preparation of the Detailed Project Report.

The proposed projects are expected to provide improved rail connectivity to several important towns and regions, facilitate passenger and freight movement, and strengthen transportation links across Marathwada and neighbouring areas.

It may be noted that preparation of a Detailed Project Report is followed by consultation with various stakeholders, including the concerned State Governments. Project sanction thereafter requires the necessary approvals and appraisal by agencies including NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Finance.

As sanctioning of railway projects is a continuous and dynamic process, the timelines for individual projects depend upon completion of the appraisal process and receipt of requisite approvals from various stakeholders.

This was answered by the Union Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw in a written reply in the Lok Sabha today.

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