

CCEA gives Nod to upgrade Rajpura-Bathinda Railway line

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Aiming at decongesting the strategically important route connecting the western border, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs today approved doubling of Rajpura-Bhatinda railway line at an estimated cost of Rs 1,251.25 crore.

New Delhi: The Centre today approval doubling and electrification of the Rajpura-Bhatinda rail line (172.64 km) for election-bound Punjab. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs decided this here today.

Anirudh Jain, Additional Member (Works), Railway Board, today told the media, "The government approved doubling of the Rajpura-Bhatinda railway line at an estimated cost of Rs 1,251.25 crore. The aim is to decongest the strategically important route connecting the western to the northern part of the country. The project will be completed in five years.

"On the "strategic importance" of the rail line, he said, "Punjab is the food bowl of the country. Grains are transported to other states. As three private freight terminals are coming up along the route, the doubling of the track will ensure more earnings for the Railways."

"The utilisation of the tract on the section is at 100 per cent and 12 passenger trains are plying on the section. Therefore, the need is to upgrade it," Jain said. Along the route, there will be six to seven loading junctions.

Enhancement of capacity of power plants and planned freight terminals will generate additional freight traffic on this route.

The districts of Patiala, Sangrur, Barnala and Bathinda are expected to be benefitted through the project.

The Rajpura-Bathinda section falls in Ambala Division of Northern Railway.

At present traffic utilisation of the section is nearing saturation. This line is strategically important as several military specials are routed on this line connecting the Western border. The main objective for doubling between Rajpura-Bathinda is to remove capacity constraint and to cater for future growth of traffic on the important route of Railways.

This venture is conceived to give the business, the agriculturists, the military and the rail clients as a rule a consistent availability into the hinterlands and fringe regions of Punjab state.

On 14 Nov 2016, Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu established the framework stone for Rajpura-Bathinda multiplying venture. He established the framework stone for 16 Limited Height metros on Ludhiana-Ambala, Jalandhar-Pathankot, Jalandhar-Firozpur, Beas-Goindwal, Bathinda Bypass Line and Dhuri-Bathinda line. Rajpura to Bathinda is a piece of Rajpura Bathinda – Sriganaganagar area of Ambala Division.

The Rajpura-Dhuri-Bathinda is a solitary line BG non jolted segment. Fulfillment of the Doubling work of this 172 km long segment being worked at an expected cost of Rs 1251.25 crore should encourage continuous and smooth movement operation as twofold line from Rajpura to Bathinda, an official discharge said here.

Various critical urban communities and mechanical towns including Patiala and Bathinda, Fertilizer and warm power plant, nourishment grains stacking focuses, instructive centers and military cantonments are situated on the venture area. There has been 6.42 for every penny for every annum development in the current traveler movement and the line limit usage has achieved 130 for each penny, the discharge said.

Mansa-Bathinda multiplying is authorized on Delhi-Bathinda course of 297 km length. Coal supply to warm

plants of Punjab and Rajasthan and the new warm plant Talwandi Sabo Power Ltd (TSPL) close Saddasinghwal is for the most part done by means of this course just, the discharge said. To encourage smooth rail activity development, Limited Height Subways have been endorse on various areas with an expected cost of Rs 38.95 Crore, the discharge said.