

in 1989 and it revealed that the line had poor traffic potential. In view of the grossly unremunerative nature of the project and constraint of resources, the project was not sanctioned.

The survey for restoration of Chhitauni-Bagha was conducted in 1973 and this work has already been completed and section opened for MG traffic in 1996. The complete section from Gorakhpur to Narkatiaganj via Bagaha is sanctioned for gauge conversion and the work is already in progress.

[English]

Construction of Roads in N.E. Region

4333.SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Border Roads Organisation has been entrusted with the work of the constructing roads for North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the annual budget earmarked therefor;

(c) the details of the ongoing major works in hand in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to make available special funds for the State PWD for the upkeep and repair of such roads; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The Border Roads Organisation has been entrusted with the construction of only some of the roads in the North Eastern Region. Most of these are General Staff (GS) roads and the rest are the Agency works.

(b) The BE for 1998-99 for Border Roads Development Board is Rs. 516.34 crore. This amount is spent as per the requirement of Defence of the country. There is no separate ear-marking of annual budget either for a State or for a Region. The amount annually spent on Agency works depends upon the funds being made available to the BRO by the respective Agencies.

(c) Details are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) Border Roads Organisation is maintaining the GS roads out of BRDB budget. The Ministry of Surface Transport provides the funds for maintenance of the National Highways to the State PWD, wherever the work of upkeep and repairs of the National Highways have been entrusted to the State PWD. Funds for the upkeep and repairs of PWD roads are to be met from the Non-Plan budget of the State Government. There is no proposal under the plan for allocation of special funds for the maintenance of State PWD roads.

Statement

Details of Major Works (with BRO)

Sl. No.	National Highway No.	Length (with BRO)	State	Work Undertaken
1.	52	337	Arunachal Pradesh	Improvement to NH single lane specifications in progress.
2.	53	25	Assam	Widening to double lane specifications in progress on Badarpur-Silchar portion.
3.	53	45	Assam	Widening to double lane specifications in progress on Silchar-Jiribam portion.
4.	53	218	Manipur	Widening to double lane specifications in progress on Imphal-Jiribam portion.
5.	54	40	Assam	Widening to double lane specifications in progress (Km 2 to Km 192)
		140	Mizoram	
		390	Mizoram	
6.	Agartala Sabroom recently declared as extension of NH 44	132	Tripura	Improvement to National Highway Intermediate width specifications in progress.