

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4037
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010
OPENING OF STIL WELL ROAD
Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of re-opening of the Stil-well Road (Ledo Road) that used to run from Ledo in upper Assam to Kunming in China;
- (b) whether an eight lane highway from Kunming, China to the borders of India is already operational and only the Indian part of the road needs to be connected;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Myanmar Government has objections to the operationalisation of this trans-national trade route as it passes through Kachin territory that is insurgency prone;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Myanmar Government during the visit of General Than Shwe, the Head of State of Myanmar during his visit to India;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the details of economic spin-offs for the development of the North East with the Stil-well road operationalised?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

- (a) to (c): The present status is that Stilwell Road is not open for providing access from the Indian side. It is understood that parts of Stilwell Road in Myanmar are being upgraded by the Myanmar Government.
- (d): The Government of Myanmar has no objection for the use of Stilwell Road.
- (e): Does not arise.
- (f) & (g): The matter was discussed during the visit of Senior General Than Shwe on 25-29 July, 2010. However, the present status continues.
- (h): No detailed study exists on the economic spin-offs for the development of North East in case access to Stilwell Road were to be operationalised.