

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3613

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2012

RAILWAY NETWORK WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi; Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of progress made in developing railway links with our neighbouring countries alongwith the progress made under Trans- Asian Rail Link (TAR), project-wise/country- wise; and

(b) the steps taken /being taken by the Railway to expedite the said process and to improve rail connectivity with our neighbouring countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) & (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3613 BY SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSHI LAKSHMI AND SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.04.2012 REGARDING RAILWAY NETWORK WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

(a) & (b): The present status of progress made in developing railway links with neighbouring countries are as under:-

(i) For providing connectivity to Nepal, five routes were surveyed as under: -

S. No.	From	To	Distance	Estimated cost
	(in Kms.)	(in Rs. Cr)		

1	Jogbani (Bihar)	Biratnagar (Nepal)	18	239
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2	Jayanagar Bijalpura (Nepal)		69	470
	(Bihar) & extn. To Bardibas			

3	Nepalganj Road	Nepalganj (Nepal)	12	149
	(Uttar Pradesh)			

4	Nautanwa Bhairahawa (Nepal)		15	176
	(Uttar Pradesh)			

5	New Jalpaiguri Kakarbhita via		46	358
	(West Bengal) Panittanki			
	(Nepal)			

Out of these five routes surveyed, two projects namely Jogbani-Biratnagar new line and Jayanagar-Bijalpura Gauge Conversion with extension to Bardibas have been taken up and are in different stages of execution.

(ii) For providing connectivity to Bhutan, five routes have been identified and surveyed as under:-

S. No.	From (in Kms.)	To (in Rs. Cr)	Distance	Estimated cost
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1	Hasimara (West Bengal)	Phuentsholing	18	271
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2	Rangia (Assam) Via Darranga	Samdrupjongkhar	48	583
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3	Kokrajhar (Assam)	Gelephu	58	304
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4	Banarhat (West Bengal)	Samtse	23	206
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5	Pathshala (Assam)	Nanglam	51	751
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No Project is sanctioned at present.

(iii) For providing connectivity to Bangladesh, one new line project, namely, Agartala- Akhaura (13 Kms.) has been taken up in the Railway Budget for the year 2012-13. Trans-Asian Railways The proposed alignment of the Southern Corridor of the Trans Asian Railway (TAR) enters India at Attari in Punjab from Western side and exits at Gede in West Bengal towards Bangladesh and again re-enters India at Mahishashan in Assam and exits at Moreh in Manipur on the Eastern side towards Myanmar. A new line between Jiribam-Imphal is under construction. It was sanctioned in 2009-10. A new line survey from Imphal-Moreh has been taken up in 2012-13.