

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5022  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012  
MOBILITY OF TROOPS  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the armed forces are facing great difficulty in fast mobility of troops and equipment due to lack of infrastructure;
- (b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has sanctioned 14 strategic rail lines along the border to overcome this problem;
- (c) if so, whether the project report has been finalised in consultation with the Railways;
- (d) if so, the total cost likely to be involved in commissioning of these lines; and
- (e) the other steps taken or being taken by the Government for infrastructure development along border areas of the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) to (c): Infrastructure constraints do pose difficulty in fast mobilisation of troops and equipment. These are addressed promptly subject to availability of resources. 14 strategic railway lines have been identified by the Ministry of Defence. Project Reports for these lines have not been finalised.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) Government has taken measures to expedite infrastructure development along the borders in a comprehensive manner. 73 strategic roads have been identified for development in Northern Borders. Work is in progress on these roads.