

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4232
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012
INDO-NEPAL CONNECTIVITY
Adityanath Shri Yogi

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken up any projects for enhancing rail/road connectivity with Nepal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR)

(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government of India is assisting the Government of Nepal in the development and upgradation of border infrastructure including road and railway linkages along the India-Nepal border. Currently, upgradation of around 605 kms of roads in the Terai region of Nepal and two cross-border railway links at Jogbani-Biratnagar & Jayanagar-Bijalpura-Bardibas are being implemented. The development of infrastructure will enhance India's connectivity with the Terai region of Nepal and strengthen economic linkages between the two countries.

All the tenders for the roads have been awarded and work is underway. The completion time for the roads is thirty months from the date of award of contract. While the Government of Nepal is in the process of land acquisition for the construction of the two rail links, work is underway on the Indian side. The expected completion time for the rail links is approximately three years.