

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3809
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
IMPHAL MANDALAY BUS SERVICE
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ground work for the cross-border Imphal-Mandalay bus service including issue of visas/immigration papers has been completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the said bus service is likely to start?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Government has been in discussions with the Government of Myanmar on starting of a bus service between Imphal and Mandalay. During the Prime Minister's visit to Myanmar, in May 2012, the leaders of both countries directed the concerned officials from both sides to finalise all modalities for operationalisation of the Bus Service. A draft Protocol on operational modalities, which includes provisions related to immigration and visa procedure, has been shared with the Myanmar side to enable its early operationalisation.