

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:750  
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2009  
NEW RAILWAY LINES IN ASSAM  
Bwiswmuthiary Shri Sansuma Khunggur

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

- (a) whether the Railways have any plan for laying new Railway Lines from Gelephu (Bhutan) to Salakati-Kokrajhar, Sandrupjungkha (Bhutan) to Rangia and Fakiragram to Jamduar connecting Bhutan within Bodoland Territory in Lower Assam;
- (b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard;
- (c) whether the Railways have any plan to convert the meter gauge line from Murkongselek to Rangia Railway Junction to broad gauge line; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 750 BY SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.07.2009 REGARDING NEW RAILWAY LINES IN ASSAM.

(a) & (b): Feasibility Studies for new lines on Indo-Bhutan border have been conducted at the following locations:-

- (i) Rangia (Assam) to Samdurjongkhar via Darranga (Bhutan) (60 Kms)
- (ii) Pathsala (Assam) to Nanglam (Bhutan) (40 Kms)
- (iii) Kokrajhar (Assam) – Gelephu (Bhutan) (70 Kms)
- (iv) Banarhat (West Bengal) – Samtse (Bhutan) (16 Kms)
- (v) Hasimara (West Bengal) – Phuentsholing (Bhutan) (18 Kms)

Out of the above five locations, rail link between Hasimara (West Bengal) and Phuentsholing (Bhutan) (18 Kms) has been prioritized for which Detailed Engineering Survey has been taken up.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. The gauge conversion of Rangia to Murkongselek with linked lines (510.33 Km) has already been taken up at a cost of Rs. 1555.23 crore. The project is targeted for completion by March, 2013 subject to availability of resources