

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1280  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2013  
DEALS WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES  
Anandan Shri K.Murugesan

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

- (a) whether the Railways or their Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have been providing technical assistance and also undertaking joint research projects with our neighbouring countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways or any of their PSUs have signed deals with our neighbouring countries in this regard and also for the development of Trans-Asian Railway Network; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) to (d): Indian Railways through its Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) have been taking up projects, technical studies, capacity building etc. in neighbouring countries including Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Bangladesh with funding through Line of Credit (LoC).

Projects undertaken by M/s RITES with neighbouring countries include:-

- (i) Bhutan:- 5 Feasibility Studies.
- (ii) Nepal:-5 Preliminary-Engineering-cum-Traffic Surveys, 1 Preconstruction Survey and 1 Feasibility Study.
- (iii) Myanmar: - 1 Feasibility Study.
- (iv) Sri Lanka:- Construction of sheds and buildings for DMU maintenance.
- (v) Bangladesh:- New Coach Manufacturing Unit.

Projects undertaken by M/s IRCON with neighbouring countries include:-

- (i) Bangladesh:- Construction of 2nd Bhairab Railway Bridge with Approach Rail Lines and construction of Akhaura-Agartal rail link.
- (ii) Nepal:- construction of rail link between Jogbani (in Bihar ) to Biratnagar (in Nepal) and construction of rail link between Jayanagar-Bijalpura(Gauge Conversion) with extension to Bardibas.
- (iii) Sri Lanka:- Reconstruction of Madhu Road to Talai Manar railway line, reconstruction of Omanthal to Pallai railway line, reconstruction of Pallai to Kankesanthurai railway line and design, supply, installation, testing & commissioning of signalling & Telecommunication system for railway line.

For Trans-Asia Railway, Government of India have signed Inter-governmental Agreement on Trans- Asian Railway in the year 2007.

The Agreement defines and lists the railway lines of international importance including the missing links and lays down the guiding principles relating to technical characteristics for providing seamless transport on the Trans- Asian Railway Network.