

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3245

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2014

INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN BORDER AREAS

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the infrastructural developments including building of roads and railways by neighbouring countries including China along the border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the issue with the neighbouring countries including China and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there has been delay in construction of road and rail network in border areas of the country and if so, the details thereof along with the total number of infrastructure projects relating to defence completed during the last three years and the current year and still pending for completion; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for establishing stronger defence infrastructure including road and rail networks in border areas of the country to meet the security threats?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (c): Government has taken cognizance of the infrastructural developments along the border by neighbouring countries including China. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

(d) & (e): Out of 73 roads identified as strategic border roads, 17 have been completed so far. The delay in execution of road projects is due to delay in forest / wildlife / environment clearance, hard rock stretches, limited working season and difficulties in availability of construction material. However, Government has taken measures to expedite the pace of road projects by getting general approval from Ministry of Environment and Forest for diversion of forest land required for construction of roads, increasing air effort availability, approving modern machineries / equipments etc. Further, Rs. 1000 Crores have been earmarked for development of strategic railway lines in the current financial year.