

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3465
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
PROVISION OF RAIL LINK
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have received any proposal to set up rail link with neighbouring countries like China, Nepal and Myanmar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c) : There are no proposals to set up rail links with China.

As regards rail links with Nepal, as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 16.2.2010, the following five cross-border rail links were identified and surveys undertaken –

- i. Jogbani (Bihar) – Biratnagar (Nepal) (18 kms)
- ii. Jaynagar (Bihar) – Bijalpura (Nepal) with extension to Bardibas (69 km)
- iii. Nepalganj Road – Nepalganj (12 Kms)
- iv. New Jalpaiguri –Kakrabitta via Panitanki (70 Kms)
- v. Nautanwa – Bhairahwa (15 Kms)

In addition, a new line from Kushinagar to Kapilvastu (150 km) has also been taken up for survey. Out of the above rail links, Jogbani-Biratnagar and Jaynagar-Bijalpura-Bardibas sections have been sanctioned and construction work taken up. The Government of Nepal is acquiring land for the two rail links that are sanctioned. The remaining rail links have, however, not been sanctioned.

As regards rail links to Myanmar, a feasibility study was done in 2005 by India through Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES), a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) of Ministry of Railways, for a link from Jiribam in India to Mandalay in Myanmar. This includes the missing link of approximately 360 km from Jiribam (India) to Kalay (Myanmar) via Moreh/Tamu. The Jiribam-Imphal section (125 km) is a sanctioned work and taken up for construction. The portions from Imphal to Moreh (111 km) and from Tamu to Kalay (128 km) in Myanmar have not been sanctioned.

In respect of the Tamu-Kalay rail link in Myanmar, no response of the Government of Myanmar for land availability/acquisition has been received.