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Title : Need to connect Mahisasan and Sutarkandi in Assam to Bangladesh through road and railway line to augment international trade.

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIIDYA (KARIMGANJ): Due to its commercially strategic location having longest Indo-Bangladesh border – Karimganj in Assam has been an important centre for international trade. During pre-Â independence period it was connected with the rest of the country by rail, road and waterways, all of which ran through present Bangladesh. Post-independence - though roads and waterways are used for transportation of commodities, but the rail route has been completely stopped.

Considering its importance a few years back an International Trade Centre has been set up at Sutarkandi in Karimganj. With regard to rail route, there was a hundred-year old rail route - Kolkata - Silchar line linking Latu in Bangladesh and Mahisasan in Karimganj which was pulled out. If this link is restored, it would give huge impetus for international trade.

In view of the tremendous potentiality of trade and commerce in this region, I, in the public interest, appeal to the Government of India to seriously consider for declaring Mahisasan for rail and Sutarkandi for road connections in Indo-Bangladesh Transit Route.