

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1206

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007

RAIL-ROAD LINKAGE PROJECTS

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Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of rail-road linkage projects received from the State Government are pending with the Government;
- (b) if so, the details of such projects and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the progress made in respect of these projects during the last three years, year-wise and project-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to expedite the Rail and Road connectivity to sea ports in Gujarat?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a)to(d) : Union Government is responsible for development and maintenance of only National Highways (NH) and providing NH connectivity to the Major Ports of the country. At present, there is only one Major Port in Gujarat, i.e., Kandla Port which is well connected through National Highway NH-8A. However, some of the projects for augmentation of National Highways in Gujarat, that have been included in the National Highways Development Programme(NHDP) Phase-III, would also facilitate improved road linkage to some non-Major Ports of Gujarat. These projects are indicated below :

Project Status

Kandla-Mundra Bids are under evaluation for preparation of Detailed Project Report Port Section of (DPR) for the project for four laning of 73 kms stretch of NH-8A. NH-8A

Surat-Hazira Port DPR is in inception stage for the project of four laning of 29 kms Section of NH-6 stretch of NH-6.

For the connectivity of Broad Gauge Rail Linkages to important non-Major Ports in Gujarat, the Gujarat Maritime Board had initiated and completed Techno-Feasibility Studies through M/s. Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) Limited. Discussions were held between senior officers of Government of Gujarat and Railway Board on 20th July, 2006. Meanwhile, Railways are executing following projects for providing linkage to non-Major Ports in Gujarat :

Name of the Port Status

Dahej Port The project has been sanctioned for execution by Rail Vikas Nigam

(Bharuch-Samni- Limited (RVNL) through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) viz. Bharuch-

Dahej-Gauge Dahej Railway Company Limited which will implement the project.
Conversion) The shareholder's agreement has been signed on 12.1.2007. The
anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 165.77 crores.

Hazira Port A Special Purpose Vehicle for implementation of this project is to be
(Surat-Hazira-New created upon finalization of principles for revenue allocation and
Line) Concession Agreement for this project.

Dholera Port Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) is undertaking the Preliminary
Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey (PETS) for rail connectivity to this Port.

Bedi and New Bedi Railway Board is appraising the Study Report prepared by RITES
Port Connectivity for this project.