

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3723

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004

ROB OVER RIVER BRAHAMPUTRA AT DIBRUGARH

Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar;Sonowal Shri Sarbananda;Subba Shri Moni Kumar

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

- (a) the details of funds sanctioned during each of the last three years to expedite the construction work of rail-cum-road (Bogibeel) bridge over river Brahmaputra;
- (b) if so, the present status of the above project;
- (c) whether the progress of the work is going on at slow speed;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether there is any programme for the upgradation of railway network in Assam and North East; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (f): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3723 BY SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL, DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA AND SHRI M.K. SUBBA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.12.2004 REGARDING ROB OVER RIVER BRHAMPUTRA AT DIBRUGARH.

(a): The budget outlay during the last three years, i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 for the work of Rail-cum-Road bridge at Bogibeel over river Brahmaputra had been Rs.14.89 crore, Rs. 40 crore and Rs.60 crore respectively.

(b) to (d): The work is being progressed as per availability of resources. Out of the total cost of Rs. 1767 crore, Railway's share is Rs. 1109 crore and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) share is Rs.658.4 crore. MORTH is yet to provide any funds towards their share of the cost. Presently, land acquisition, earthwork, bridgeworks and boulder collection are in progress. Construction of service approach road to bridge site on north bank is in progress but is affected due to normal bank dykes damaged in floods. Tenders for construction of substructure of the main bridge including guide bunds have been processed.

(e) & (f): In order to upgrade the rail network in Assam & North East Region at present, there are 11 ongoing projects of new line and gauge conversion which on completion would add about 1724 kms of broad gauge. Necessary funds are being earmarked by Railways for these projects in line with the extant policy of the government. Recently, Kumarghat-Agartala new line and Lumding-Silchar -Jiribam gauge conversion projects have been declared as National projects and it has been decided that additional funds over and above the normal budgetary support shall be provided to complete these projects by March'07 and Mar'09 respectively.