

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5264
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014
INDO BANGLADESH RAIL LINKS
Datta Shri Sankar Prasad

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the present status of ongoing/pending railway projects to establish link between India and Bangladesh, project-wise including Agartala-Akhaura and Agartala- Sabroom sections;
- (b) whether both the countries have entered into any agreement to start some more railway connectivity projects;
- (c) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- (d) whether the Railways propose to provide rail connectivity with Chittagong and Feni (Bangladesh) through Sabroom in order to boost trade and commerce between the two countries; and
- (e) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5264 BY SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 14.08.2014 REGARDING INDO-BANGLADESH RAIL LINKS.

(a) to (c): The details and the present status of Agartala-Sabroom and ongoing project between India and Bangladesh viz. Agartala-Akhaura new line are as under:-

Agartala-Sabroom (110 Km), New Line: The project, which falls fully in the State of Tripura, has been taken up at a cost of `1741 Crore and an expenditure of `596 crore has been incurred upto March, 2014. An outlay of `500 crore has been provided during 2014-15. Earthwork, bridges & track linking works have been taken up.

Agartala(India)-Akhaura(Bangladesh) (15 km), New Line: Project was included in Budget 2012-13 at an anticipated cost of `252 Crore. Memorandum of Understanding between India and Bangladesh has been signed in February, 2013. An expenditure of `10 crore has been incurred upto March, 2014 and an outlay of `100 crore has been provided during 2014-15 for this project. Land acquisition has been taken up.

This is the only project for which agreement has been entered into between India and Bangladesh for rail connectivity.

(d) & (e): A Reconnaissance Engineering cum Traffic Survey for providing rail connectivity between Belonia (India) (which is a station on under-construction Agartala-Sabroom new line project) and Belonia (Bangladesh) has been taken up.