

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4346
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014
ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN BORDER AREAS
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has taken up road construction works in border areas adjoining China and Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to form a separate company to implement road projects in the border areas of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for improving connectivity in border areas of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The roads of strategic importance as identified by Army are taken up by Border Roads Organisation (BRO) for construction / improvement works.
- (c) & (d): A new company National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) has been created under Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRT&H) for exclusively dealing with the task of constructing / widening of National Highways in parts of the country sharing international boundaries with neighbouring countries.
- (e) Steps have been taken for improving the connectivity in border areas by BRO. Some of these are:
- (i) BRO has been directed to focus on core strategic functions on the Northern Border.
 - (ii) Certain roads have been identified as strategic Indo-China border roads for development by BRO.
 - (iii) A number of other strategic roads have also been identified for development for improving connectivity.
 - (iv) In addition various other projects in border areas are taken up by MoRT&H, NHAI and State Governments.