

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.438

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31ST MARCH, 2017

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN BORDER AREAS

*438. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the expanding military advancement and infrastructure development by China close to the border areas of the country including Arunachal Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the development of infrastructure, particularly road and rail connectivity in border areas of the country, is adequate for faster mobility of troops and weapon systems in forward areas and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether various strategic roads had been identified for construction almost two decades ago and if so, the number of strategic roads constructed so far along with the reasons for delay in constructing all such roads;
- (d) whether non-completion / faulty specifications of works on constructed roads have a serious bearing on the operational capability of the armed forces and for operating specialised vehicles / equipment in strategically sensitive areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto along with the steps taken to develop infrastructure including the strategic roads on priority basis?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

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(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 438 FOR ANSWER ON 31.3.2017

Government is fully seized of the security needs of the country and reviews the same from time to time. Required measures are taken through capability development including manpower accretions, infrastructure and modernisation to safeguard the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of India.

The Government has identified 73 roads as strategic Indo-China Border Roads (ICBR). Out of the 61 ICBR roads assigned to BRO, 27 roads have been completed and connectivity has been achieved in respect of 21 more roads.

Out of the prioritised 14 strategic railway lines, Government has approved Final Location Survey of four railway lines, the details of which are given below:-

- (a) Misamari-Tenga-Tawang.
- (b) Pasighat-Parasuramkund-Rupai.
- (c) Bilaspur-Manali-Leh.
- (d) North Lakhimpur-Bame (Along)-Silapathar.

The reasons for delays in execution of roads are mainly delay in Forest / Wild life clearance / land acquisition, adverse climatic conditions and availability of limited working season etc.

Construction of roads is taken up as per approved specifications. Steps taken by the Government to expedite the construction of roads *inter-alia* include enhancement of financial and administrative power of BRO, induction of modern equipments, outsourcing and regular monitoring of progress of roads etc.
