

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 956
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2017**

RAIL CONNECTIVITY TO LEH IN LADHAK

956. SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has any proposal to lay new lines in the North Eastern States of Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam close to the international borders in consultation with the Ministry of Defence and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Railways has similar plan to provide rail connectivity to Leh in Ladhak region of Jammu and Kashmir and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the feasibility studies for these projects have been completed; and**
- (d) if so, the project cost, the source of funds and the timeframe by which the projects would be accomplished?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 956 BY SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.02.2017 REGARDING RAIL CONNECTIVITY TO LEH IN LADHAK

(a) to (d): Ministry of Defence has identified 4 projects to address long term strategic needs of the country. Except Pathankot-Leh (via Bilaspur-Mandi-Manali) (498 km) which will provide connectivity to Leh in Ladhak region in Jammu & Kashmir, the other three projects fall in North Eastern Region. None of these projects have been sanctioned. Since all these projects pass through very difficult terrains of young Himalayas, therefore issues of stability, geology, constructability, maintainability and safety have to be examined. Accordingly, Final Location Surveys (FLS) have been sanctioned for these lines. Details of these lines are as under:

S. No.	Line	Length (km)	States covering
1	Misamari (Bhalukpong) -Tenga-Tawang	378	Arunachal Pradesh
2	North Lakhimpur-Bame (Along) - Silapathar	249	Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
3	Pasighat-Tezu- Parsuramkund-Rupai	227	Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
4	Pathankot-Leh (via Bilaspur-Mandi-Manali)	498	Punjab, Himachal and Ladhak
	Total	1351	

These strategic lines are being funded by Ministry of Defence and for the year 2016-17, Ministry of Defence has provided ₹ 87.18 crore. Final Location Surveys (FLS) have been taken up.
