

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1056
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2015**

PROGRESS IN RAIL SECTOR

1056. SHRI NIMMALA KRISTAPPA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Railways have made any agreement with Bangladesh to work together in the sector of railways; and**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard so far?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*** * ***

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1056 BY SHRI NIMMALA KRISTAPPA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.07.2015 REGARDING PROGRESS IN RAIL SECTOR

(a) & (b) : The Fundamental and Subsidiary Rules for Interchange of Railway Traffic between India and Bangladesh was signed in Dhaka on 11.08.1972. These Rules, *mutatis mutandis*, are still continuing.

Indian Railways have Agreements with Bangladesh Railway for interchange of goods traffic between India and Bangladesh via the following routes:

Route	Operational
Gede(India)--Darsana (Bangladesh)	Since 1972
Singhabad(India)--Rohanpur (Bangladesh)	Since 1992
Petrapole(India)--Benapole (Bangladesh)	Since 2001
Radhikapur(India)-- Birol (Bangladesh)	Not operational since 01.04.2005. Gauge conversion on Bangladesh side is yet to be completed.
Mahisasan(India)--Shahbazpur (Bangladesh)	Not operational since December 1996 due to breaches and lack of traffic.

An Agreement was signed between the Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh in Dhaka on 10.04.2008 for running passenger train services between India

and Bangladesh. Maitree Express is running between Kolkata and Dhaka Cantonment via Gede – Darsana route.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed between the Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh in Dhaka on 16.02.2013 for development of Railway infrastructure to establish rail link between Agartala (India) and Akhaura (Bangladesh). This project is presently at standstill because of sharp increase in cost of land for the sections in India.

*** * ***