

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2271
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2015**

RAIL CONNECTIVITY TO SAARC COUNTRIES

2271. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have any plan of connecting towns with the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Nations through Rajdhani Express like trains for promoting better relations among the Nations;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Railways proposes to connect towns like Raxaul (which are close to the border with neighbouring SAARC Nations like Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh etc.) through railways; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) & (d): Rail connectivity exists between Raxaul (India) and Birganj (Nepal) on which freight services run at present. Likewise, border towns like Gede, Singhabad and Petrapole in India are connected by rail to Bangladesh. Passenger services to Bangladesh are run from Kolkata (India) to Dhaka (Bangladesh) via the border town of Gede (India).
