

1	2
	Bank, Moranhat-Chalkhoa (44 km.) link has been completed and commissioned on 08.12.2009. Substructure of the main bridge is under progress. Superstructure contract has been invited and it is under process of finalization.
Bhairabhi-Sairang in the State of Mizoram	Final Location Survey has started.
Agartala-Sabroom in the State of Tripura	Final Location Survey completed. Land acquisition, earthwork and bridges have been taken up.
Sivok-Rangpo in the States of Sikkim and West Bengal	The work has been entrusted to IRCON. Final Location Survey completed.
Byrnihat-Shillong in the State of Meghalaya	Work included in Budget 2010-11
Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla in the State of Jammu and Kashmir	Qazigund-Baramulla (119 km) completed and commissioned. Work in Udhampur-Katra and Katra-Qazigund section in progress. Overall physical progress of 48%.
Gauge Conversion	
Lumding-Silchar-Jiribam and Badarpur to Kumarghat in the States of Assam and Manipur	Work on earthwork, major bridges, minor bridges, tunnelling and ballasting is under progress. However, progress is being affected due to militancy in the region.
Rangia-Murkongselek with linked fingers in the State of Assam	Work on formation and bridges is in progress.

Proposal for doubling the plan expenditure of Railways

590. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of the pathetic position of Railways Government has put forth a proposal before the Finance Ministry to double its Plan size to Rs. 39,600 crores;

(b) the reasons for sharp increase in the operating ratio touching to 95.3 per cent;

- (c) the efforts made by Government to improve the operating ratio; and
- (d) whether Finance Ministry has given any assurance for doubling the Plan size?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Rise in operating ratio to 95.3 in 2009-10 was mainly on account of payment of 6th Pay Commission arrears. A similar trend has been observed during earlier Pay Commissions also. Efforts to improve the operating ratio by maximising earnings and reducing expenditure is an on-going exercise. The Operating Ratio is expected to show a declining trend from 2010-11.

- (d) Does not arise.

Utilization of rail track for attending call of nature

591. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in Surat, Udhna and Ahmedabad, people are utilizing railway tracks and areas near Railway Station for their natural cause which creates dirtiness, bad smell and spreading of various diseases;

- (b) the steps taken by Government to stop this; and

(c) by when Government will grant approval to Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) to provide toilet facilities for them as SMC already submitted a proposal to Surat local Railway Administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Railway provides toilet facilities only to *bonafide* railway passengers.

(c) Formal proposal in this regard has not been received from Surat Municipal Corporation.

Delay in implementation of rail projects

592. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether delay in rollout of 207 railway projects has pushed up the cost by over 85 per cent to Rs. 3.12 lakh crore from the original estimate of Rs. 1.69 lakh crore;

(b) if so, whether Government has found out the reasons for delay in implementation of those projects; and