

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A statement is enclosed (See below)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Gauge Conversion of Lumding-Silchar-Jiribam and Badarpur-Baraigram has been declared as 'National Project'. It has been decided to take up conversion of line from Baraigram to Kumarghat also as a part of this project. Kumarghat-Manu-Agartala New Line is also a National Project.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) March, 2009.

*Statement*

*LUMDING-MANU RAILWAY LINE*

**Conversion of Metre-Gauge to Broad Gauge**

s No	Name of Project	Status
1.	Chhindwara-Nagpur (Gauge Conversion)	Final Location Survey has been completed and tenders for earthwork and bridges invited.
2.	Pratapnagar-Chhota Udepur (Gauge Conversion)	Final Location Survey on part length completed and earthwork and bridges taken up.
3.	Rewari-ringus-phulera-Ajmer (Gauge Conversion)	This is a work under execution by Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. Earthwork, bridgework etc. taken up.

**Double Railway Track Under NEF Railway**

696. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the introduction of double railway track under the jurisdiction of Northeast Frontier Railway upto Tinsukia is being contemplated during Eleventh Five Year Plan;

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RAJYA SABHA

(b) whether there is any provision for double railway track over Bogibi-cum-road bridge over river Brahmaputra;

(c) whether there is any plan to introduce superfast express trains between Guwahati and Howrah and Guwahati and New Delhi;

(d) whether his Ministry is considering to introduce super fast goods train upto Tinsukia under Northeast Frontier Railway to reach essential commodities for the people of Northeast?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

#### **Railway Zone in Kerala**

697. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider to allot a railway zone based in Kerala;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to constitute either any new railway zones or railway divisions attached with any Railways in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A new Division with Headquarters at Salem in Southern Railway has been proposed. However, the detailed territorial jurisdiction of the proposed Salem division has not yet been finalized.