

(e) Major part of the project has been completed. Also some items/equipments which were not required by Indian Railway have been deleted from the scope. Considering this, net loan requirement comes to Euro 64.4 Million and loan disbursed so far is Euro 44.0 million. The balance requirement is Euro 20.4 million (₹ 141.4 crore) only. It has been decided that balance works will be funded and executed with Railway's own resources.

**India-Bangla rail extension project**

618. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of India-Bangla rail extension project;
- (b) when it is likely to be opened for train passengers between both the countries;
- (c) whether such a project is also under consideration with our other adjoining neighbours; and
- (d) if so, the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) MoU for Indo-Bangla Railway connectivity project viz. Agartala-Akhaura new Broad Gauge line (15.06 km.) was signed on 16.02.2013 between Government of India and Government of Bangladesh. About 5 km. length of the project falls in India and 10 km. falls in Bangladesh. Final Location Survey for both Indian as well as Bangladesh portions has been completed. Project is at standstill because of sharp increase in cost of land for the sections in India. In order to reduce the requirement of land, proposal for construction of 3.7 km. railway line on viaduct has been submitted to the State Government of Tripura.

(b) No time lines have been fixed for completion of the project and running train for passenger traffic as the project is in initial stages.

(c) and (d) Two projects for Indo-Nepal connectivity have been taken up. The status of these two projects is as detailed below:

- (i) Jogbani-Biratnagar (Nepal) (18.60 km.) new line project:- 5.45 km. length falls in India and 13.60 km. falls in Nepal. Land for the entire project, except for a length of about 1.8 km. falling in Nepal, has been acquired and earthwork, bridge works etc. taken up.
- (ii) Jaynagar-Bijalpura gauge conversion and its extension up to Bardibas (69 km.):- 3 km. length falls in India and 66 km. falls in Nepal. Final

location survey has been completed. Land plans for Indian portion has been submitted to the State Government. In Nepal portion, land has been handed over in 47 km in patches. Earthwork and bridgework have been taken up in the stretches where land is available.

#### **PPP model for development of Railways**

619. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of putting PPP model in development of Railways;
- (b) the status and effective action plan in resolving the disputes between Government and private partners in such a development model; and
- (c) the status of capacity enhancement and laying of tracks in the underdeveloped regions of the country under this model?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) For encouraging PPP (Public Private Partnership) on railways, a policy on Participative models for rail connectivity and capacity augmentation was issued in December, 2012. Model Concession Agreements for Non-Government line model, Joint Venture, Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) and Customer funded models have been issued. Till now under different PPP models, 9 projects have been implemented, 13 projects have been approved for implementation, besides 6 projects which have been given 'in principle' approval.

(b) The Concession Agreements provide for Conciliation, Arbitration and Adjudication for resolving disputes between Government and partners.

(c) Projects under PPP model are undertaken on the basis of operational requirement, financial viability, bankability and interest of stakeholders. Such projects are not undertaken based on socio-economic development of a particular region.

#### **Upgradation of basic amenities at Korukkupet railway station**

620. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Korukkupet railway station in North Chennai Parliamentary Constituency will be upgraded with all basic amenities such as clean drinking water, sanitation, platform and railway line cleanliness;

(b) whether a subway would be constructed to connect either end of the railway gate no. LC 2, near Korukkupet railway station for easy and safe flow of passenger traffic; and