

rush of passengers during festival seasons, Melas, during summer and other peak seasons, to prevent any mishap. Regular coordination meetings are also held with local police and local administration to prevent any mishap.

### Linking the capitals of North Eastern States by Railway

1573. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to link all the capitals of NE States by Railway;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this is proposed to be executed under Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time-frame within which it is proposed to be initiated and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Rail connectivity already exists for capital cities of Assam (Guwahati), Tripura (Agartala) and Arunachal Pradesh (Itanagar). To provide connectivity to capitals of Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland and Mizoram, following new line projects have been taken up:

(₹ in crores)

State	Capital	Name of project (length)	Anticipated cost	Expenditure upto March, 2016	Outlay 2016-17
Meghalaya	Shillong	Byrnihat-Shillong (108 km.)	5308	21	300
Manipur	Imphal	Jiribam-Imphal (125 km.)	6571	4891	1000
Nagaland	Kohima	Dimapur-Kohima (88 km.)	2973	150	350
Mizoram	Aizawl	Bhairabi-Sairang (51 km.)	2820	544	500
Sikkim	Gangtok	Sivok-Rangpo (44 km.)*	4190	281	250

\* Sivok-Rangpo New Line has been taken up to connect Sikkim but the proposal to extend this line upto its capital *i.e.* Gangtok has not been taken up.

Agartala, the capital of Tripura, has been brought on Broad Gauge network with introduction of goods trains in February, 2016.

- (c) No, Sir. These projects are being funded through Railway Budget.

(d) Completion of projects depends on many factors such as land acquisition, forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of services, construction of road over and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies, law and order situation etc. in addition to availability of funds. As many of these factors are not within the control of Railways, it is not feasible to fix timelines for all the projects. However, Railways have taken various measures to expedite completion of projects including substantial increase in allocation of funds, prioritization of projects, delegation of powers at field level, inviting the State Governments to participate with Railways for resource mobilization for projects, nomination of nodal officers for improved co-ordination with the State Governments etc.

#### **Deaths of animals in train accidents**

1574. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of wild and other animals, especially elephants, that get killed in train accidents, has increased enormously;
- (b) if so, the details of such animals killed during the last three years;
- (c) whether officials of both Railways and Environment Ministries have worked out some effective action plan to control this loss;
- (d) the status of this loss under the North East Frontier Railway in the country; and
- (e) how far has it been controlled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (e) No, Sir. The numbers of wild animals and elephants killed under train accidents are as under:

Year	Total Nos. of wild animals killed		Total Nos. of elephants killed out of total wild animals	
	On Indian Railway	On North-east Frontier Railway	On Indian Railway	On North-east Frontier Railway
2013	26	19	26	19
2014	9	5	5	5
2015	15	9	10	9
2016	0	0	0	0
(upto March)				