Railway connectivity to more parts of J&K

2372. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have any plan to provide rail connectivity to other parts of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) including Kargil and Leh regions;
 - (b) whether feasibility studies have been completed in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the project cost, sources of funds and the time-frame by which the projects would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) To assess the feasibility and viability of rail connectivity in Ladakh region, a survey of Srinagar-Kargil-Leh (430 km) new line has been taken up.

c) No time-frame can be fixed as the project has not been sanctioned.

Pending railway projects in Bihar

 \dagger 2373. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many railway projects are lying pending in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the names of the pending projects and the details of funds provided for them in this financial year to make these projects a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) 3 major long pending projects, *viz.*, (i) Rail-cum-road bridge over Ganga at Patna, (ii) Rail-cum-road bridge over Ganga at Munger and (iii) Gauge conversion of Kaptanganj-Thawe-Siwan-Chhapra falling partly/fully in Bihar have been fully completed in 2015-16. Overall, Railways have taken up 54 major projects comprising 35 New Lines, 13 Doublings and 06 Gauge Conversions falling fully/partly in Bihar. Details of all these projects including outlays for 2016-17 for these projects are as under:

(₹ in crore) Outlay Sl. No Name of Project Latest Exp. Anticiupto 2016-17 pated Mar'15 cost 2 3 5 4 **New Lines** 1. Ara-Bhabua Road (122 km) 1931 0.5 2 2. Araria-Galgalia (Thakurganj) (100km) 828 54 150 3. 1196 2 Araria-Supaul (92km) 0.29 0.50 4. Bariarpur-Mananpur via Kharagpur, Lachmipur-826 14 Barhat (68 km) 5. Bihta-Aurangabad via Anugrahanarayan Road 2042 2 2 $(118 \, \text{km})$ 6. Chhapra-Muzaffarpur (85km) 1100 112 20 7. Chhitauni-Tumkuhi Road (58.88 km) 535 32 25

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.