

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1591
ANSWERED ON 15.12.2023

ESTABLISHMENT OF RAIL LINK BETWEEN INDIA AND BHUTAN

1591 SHRI PRAKASH CHIK BARAIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to establish a cross border Rail link between Banarhat in West Bengal and Samtse in Bhutan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the concerned State Governments through which the rail will pass through, have been consulted, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that due to the project large section of tea plantation will be destroyed?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): Final Location Survey (FLS) for construction of new line between Banarhat (India)-Samtse (Bhutan) (23.15 km) has been sanctioned in 2023-24. Consultations with the State Government are held during the survey work. The details shall be known after completion of the survey.

Railway projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations etc.
