

(b) the details of major passenger amenities provided by Railways to the passengers during last three years; and

(c) what are the programmes proposed to be taken up to provide more amenities to the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA):

(a) Percentage of expenditure incurred on Passenger Amenities to total outlay during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Percentage
1989-90	0.68
1990-91	0.58
1991-92	0.63

(b) Amenities are provided at stations in accordance with prescribed norms based on the volume of passenger traffic handled. Periodical surveys are conducted by Railways to ascertain deficiencies in basic amenities at stations and action is taken to eliminate them. During the last three years, not only basic amenities such as waiting halls, benches/seats, lighting, platform with well maintained surface, proper booking arrangements and shady trees were provided as per yardsticks at various stations, but additional amenities like provision of water coolers, waiting rooms, retiring rooms, book stalls, refreshment rooms, bathrooms, urinals, fans, CCTVs, public address system, enquiry/information office, train indicator boards, additional platforms and platform shelters, washable aprons on platform lines, foot over bridges, circulating area etc., were also provided at various stations depending on the traffic requirement.

(c) Railways are making all out efforts to provide maximum comfort to the rail users. With this in view, progressively increasing allocations are made every year for undertaking passenger amenity works. Presently, an action plan to eliminate the deficiencies in respect of basic passenger amenities as existing on 1-4-1991, has been taken up. Besides, other passenger amenities if justified, based on volume of passenger traffic, will also be provided, subject to availability of funds.

ABB Locomotive Deal

3000. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently cleared Asean Brown Boveri locomotives deal;

(b) if so, the total number of electric locomotives of 6000 HP which the Railways expect to purchase from ABB;

(c) the loan assistance proposed to be given to the Indian Railways by the ABB for the purchase of these locomotive;

(d) whether the decision to go ahead with the locomotives deal had been taken after taking into account of the recommendations of the R.C.C.;

(e) if so, the main recommendations of RCC accepted by the Railways; and

(f) whether the above decision was taken after taking into account the recommendations of the Expert Group constituted by the Planning Commission, if so, what were the main recommendations to the Experts Group set up by the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Contract for supply of 30 Nos. of 6000 HP 25 KV AC 3 phase electric locomotives alongwith associated spares in the form of 3 loco sets has been awarded to ABB/Switzerland.

(c) ABB has not proposed to give any loan assistance for the purchase of these locomotives.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The recommendations of the RCC was that the Government may give serious consideration to the views expressed by the Committee before taking a final decision. After considering the views expressed by RCC, the Government decided to go ahead with the awarding of the contract.

(f) Yes, Sir. The main recommendation of the Expert Group was that the need for introducing the high horse power locomotives incorporating state-of-the art technologies is established beyond doubt on technological, operational and economic considerations.

रेलवे स्टेशनों पर वैनडर या दुकान के आर्बटन में अधिकारियों द्वारा रिश्कत लिया जाना

3001. चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस मामले की जानकारी है कि किसी अधिकारी ने रेलवे स्टेशनों पर वैनडर या दुकान आर्बटन किये जाने हेतु रिश्कत ली है;