

Request was also made to expedite ongoing gauge conversion projects. These projects are progressed as per availability of resources.

- (c) The new works would be taken up as and when sanctioned.
- (d) Does not arise.

More trains for South Central Railway

1632. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the trains running in the South Central Railway especially on the routes of Hyderabad-Visakhapatnam are insufficient and three more trains are required;
- (b) if so, the comments of Government in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken to run more trains in the route of SCR in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Following additional services have been announced in the Railway Budget for 2009-10 which will serve the passengers on South Central Railway:

1. Vishakhapatnam-Secunderabad-Mumbai Express
2. Bilaspur-Tirunelveli Express
3. Hazrat Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express via Kacheguda
4. Lucknow-Rae Bareilly-Bangalore Express
5. Howrah-Bangalore Express
6. Delhi-Secunderabad Express (Non stop)

The frequency of 7091/7092 Secunderabad-Patna Express will be increased from bi-weekly to daily and of 2739/2740 Secunderabad-Vishakhapatnam Express from four days a week to daily.

Price-rise of steel

1633. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the price pattern of domestic steel during the last two years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the prices of steel has continued to rise despite lowering of price of critical raw material; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to contain this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The price trend of a representative category of steel in the retail market of Delhi is given on a quarterly basis from June 2009 to June 2007 in the table below: