

- (b) if so, the details thereof including budgetary support for the anticipated cost; and
- (c) the time by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur has been included in the Budget 2008-09 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 742.88 crore. Preliminary works like Final Location Survey, preparation of plan, estimate, etc. have been taken up. An outlay of Rs. 30 crore has been provided for the project in the Budget 2009-10.

- (c) The project will be progressed as per the availability of resources.

Gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej railway line

2382. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether concession agreement among GMB, Dahej SEZ Ltd., GNFC, Adani Port and RVNL, has been signed for gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej railway line;
- (b) if so, the time-limit fixed for the implementation of the project; and
- (c) whether the project also covers the facility of double stack container arrangement as part of dedicated freight corridor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Concession Agreement has been signed on 25.06.2008 between Ministry of Railways and Bharuch-Dahej Railway Company Limited. Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB), Dahej (SEZ) Ltd., Adani Petronet (Dahej) Port Private Limited and Gujarat Narmada Fertilisers Co. Limited (GNFC) are shareholders of Bharuch-Dahej Railway Company Limited.

- (b) The target date for implementation of this project is December, 2010.
- (c) The Section has been planned as a feeder route of Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) with normal height of OHE fit for operation of single-stack container.

Doubling and electrification of Udhana-Jalgaon section

2383. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of doubling of line and electrification works of Udhana-Jalgaon section of Western Railway;
- (b) the status of providing loop lines on six important railway stations on this section; and
- (c) the target of completion of doubling and electrification work of this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The doubling of Udhna-Jalgaon with electrification has been included in the Railway Budget 2008-09 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 716.60 crore. Final Location Survey including preparation of plans and estimate has been taken up and is in advance stage of progress. The part estimate for 85 Km length and five loops has been processed..

(b) The work of providing loop lines on six important railway stations on this section is being taken up with the main work of Udhna-Jalgaon, doubling.

(c) The work is likely to be completed during 2012-13.

Gauge conversion of Bhiladi-Samdari rail line

2384. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:
SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. has completed the gauge conversion between Bhiladi-Samdari;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the gauge conversion would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The work involves converting a metre gauge line to broad gauge and entails large scale changes to the available infrastructure. This is a time consuming work, especially as it involves modifications to many facilities even when the trains are running, like improvement to platforms, strengthening of bridges, changes in signaling and track etc. This work is progressed as per the availability of resources. The work is now nearing completion and is likely to be completed during 2009-10.

Proposals for introduction of new trains

2385. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many proposals for introduction of new trains are pending with her Ministry;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State Governments of Rajasthan and Maharashtra have made certain proposals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what is the criterion for introduction of new train and on what grounds the proposals received from the States of Rajasthan and Maharashtra are not being accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) 10 pairs of new train services announced in previous Railway budgets are yet to be introduced.