

(b) and (c) Requests for introduction of new train services are received at various levels viz. station level, division level, headquarter level and Railway Board level. These requests including from Rajasthan and Maharastra are received throughout the year. Action as feasible is taken after thorough examination of various issues.

(d) New trains are introduced taking into account various factors like availability of resources, operational feasibility, traffic justification, public demand etc. In the Railway Budget 2009-10, 11 pairs and 20 pairs of new trains serving the states of Rajasthan and Maharashtra respectively have been announced.

Justice Sagir Ahmed Commission on collision of trains

2386. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Justice Sagir Ahmed Commission was set up on 13th February, 2001 to inquire into the collision of 3005 up Howrah-Amritsar rail with derailed wagons of dn Ajitwal-New Bongaigoan goods train on 2nd December, 2000 in Ambala-Ludhiana section of Northern Railway;

(b) if so, whether the report of the Commission has been received;

(c) if so, the salient features of the report; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. A Commission of Inquiry consisting of Justice S. Saghir Ahmed, Retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India as its sole member, has been appointed on 13th February, 2001 to inquire into the accident involving collision of 3005 Up Howrah-Amritsar Mail with the derailed wagons of Down Food grain Special on the Ambala-Ludhiana Section of Ambala Division of Northern Railway on 02.12.2000.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The inquiry is in progress. Requests have been made to expedite the inquiry.

Linking Bhiwadi with Delhi-Ahmedabad rail line

2387. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether linking Bhiwadi to Delhi Ahmedabad broad gauge railway line is vital for industrial growth of NCR as well as Rajasthan but the Railway Ministry has suggested the State Government to incur the cost of this project as Bhiwadi is an industrial hub of Rajasthan, which is located in the National Capital Region;

(b) whether Government of India, realizing the importance of the project would sanction this linking railway line;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) An updating survey for a new line linking Bhiwadi to Delhi-Ahmedabad BG line (27 kms) has been completed recently. As per the survey report, the cost of this new line has been assessed as Rs. 153.73 crore. North Western Railway has been asked to review the cost of the proposed line.

Running of Janta trains

†2388. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of passengers travelling in general bogies of train is five times the number of seats;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to run any Janta train for them, so that, Iijat pass provided by Government can prove to be effective; and

(c) if so, the time by when the train would be run, and if not, the details of the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) General unreserved coaches are normally over crowded.

(b) and (c) New trains introduced normally have general bogies, some of which may be utilized by monthly pass holders. However, presently there is no proposal to start a Janata Train.

Toilets and urinals at platforms

2389. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board has prescribed requirement of toilets and urinals to be provided at platforms as well as in waiting halls/sheds and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether most of the platforms/waiting halls/sheds do not have the prescribed number of toilets and urinals and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether most of the existing toilets and urinals are in unusable condition and if so, the steps taken to provide clean and hygienic urinals/toilets on platforms etc. for the benefit of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. Comprehensive instructions already exist for provision of passenger amenities including

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.