

Sampark Kranti Express, Swarna Jayanthi Express, Parasuram Express and Jayanthi Janatha Express, train-wise;

(c) whether the toilets, floor and A.C. system in all these trains are very poor in maintenance; and

(d) the steps taken to remove all the old compartments from these trains and to improve the passenger amenities in them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Coaches with a prescribed codal life of 25 years are used in Passenger services on IR.

The approximate age profile of coaches running in these train services is as under :—

Age	Percentage
0-5 years	15
6-10 years	29
11-15 years	31
16-20 years	16
21-25 years	9

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The acquisition of new coaches for replacement of over-aged stock is a continuous activity for Indian Railways.

Maintenance and upkeep of passenger amenities in coaches is a continuing requirement and this is carried out periodically during laid down maintenance schedules in open line as well as periodic overhauls in the Railway Workshops. Besides, the coaches are also given 'Mid-life' rehabilitation after 12-15 years of usage.

#### **Construction of Patan-Bhiladi missing link**

3161. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work relating to preparation of plan, estimates, etc. regarding construction of Patan-Bhiladi missing link in Gujarat has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the construction work would likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) The alignment survey has been completed and detailed estimate sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 237.12 crore. The work of land acquisition and major bridges has been taken up.