

(c) whether the direct train between Ranchi and Mumbai runs only twice a week; and

(d) whether there is any provision for running it on daily basis and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The codal life of passenger carrying coaches is 25 years. The age profile of coaches running presently in three rakes of Rajdhani Express between New Delhi and Ranchi is as under:

Age (in years)	No. of coaches
0-5	0
6-10	8
11-15	19
16-20	9
21-25	0

(b) At present, there is no proposal to increase the frequency of Rajdhani Express between New Delhi and Ranchi.

The acquisition of new coaches for replacement of over-aged stock is an on-going activity for Indian Railways.

(c) Train Nos.2811/2812 Hatia (Ranchi)-Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (Mumbai) Express (Bi-weekly) and 8609/8610 Ranchi-Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (Mumbai) Express (Weekly) provide direct service for Ranchi-Mumbai passengers.

(d) At present, there is no such proposal.

#### **Three laning of Virar-Vadodara rail line**

3769. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether time limit was fixed for three laning of Virar-Vadodara section of the Western Railway;

(b) if so, the current status of the project; and

(c) the reasons for delay in implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no sanctioned for work 3rd line between Virar and Vadodara. An updating survey for construction of 3rd line between Virar and Ahmedabad was completed during 2004-05. As per the survey report, cost of construction of 504 km. railway line was assessed as Rs. 1851 crore with rate of return of 3.57%. The line capacity on this route is being augmented by adopting Automatic Signalling. The construction of Dedicated Freight Corridor on the Western route will also provide additional capacity on this route.