

- (a) the progress made in the railway line between Patan-Bhiladi;
- (b) whether she is aware about reduction in Railway facilities subsequent to conversion to broad gauge between Patan-Mehsana in North Gujarat; and
- (c) how much time her Ministry would take to provide daily two trains between Patan and Ahmedabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The work of land acquisition and major bridges has been taken up for construction of new line Patan-Bhildi.

(b) During conversion, one of the level crossings has been closed as it was not feasible. Traffic of this L-xing was diverted to a nearby L-xing.

(c) 273-274 Ahmedabad-Patan passenger has been introduced from 14.02.2009. At present, there is no such proposal to introduce additional train on Ahmedabad-Mahesana-Patan section.

New trains and rail projects in Kerala

855. SHRI P. R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to start regular trains from Ernakulam-Shoranur-Ernakulam and Kottayam-Ernakulam-Kottayam; and
- (b) what is the provision for doubling of rail line from Ernakulam to Kayamkulam and by when it is proposed to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) There is no proposal to start trains between Ernakulam-Shoranur and Ernakulam-Kottayam. However, the following trains announced in the Railways Budget 2009-10 will serve the Ernakulam area also:

1. Ernakulam-Delhi Express Non-stop
2. Bangalore-Kochuveli Express
3. Mangalore-Thiruvananthapuram Express
4. Ernakulam-Goa Express
5. Bilaspur-Tirunelveli Express
6. Hapa-Tirunelveli Express
7. Extension of 2075/2076 Thiruvananthapuram-Ernakulam Jan Shatabdi Express to Kozhikode.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 100.5 crore has been proposed for the patch doublings taken up between Ernakulam-Kayankulam route. Work on these doublings is likely to be completed in next 2-3 years subject to handing over of the required land by the State Government and availability of resources.

Gauge conversion of Chhindwara-Nagpur railway line

†856. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi