

Trains without pantry car

†4760. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of long distance trains without pantry car;
- (b) the number of such trains not having pantry cars at least for last five years;
- (c) whether lack of production is the reason behind it; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures intended to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Free passes for train journey

4761. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is having any policy of issuing free passes for train journey;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and criteria to select beneficiaries; and
- (c) the details of such passes issued since 2006 including names of persons to whom passes were issued and the purpose for which the passes were issued, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): Yes, Sir.

- (b) Details are given in Statement (See below).
- (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Passes for free rail travel are issued to the following categories of persons as per the schemes announced from time to time by the Ministry of Railways.

1. Freedom Fighters (Cost borne by Ministry of Home Affairs).
2. Arjun Awardees/Olympic Medalists/Asian and Commonwealth Gold Medalists/Dronacharya Awardees.
3. Winners of Param Veer Chakra, Maha Veer Chakra, Veer Chakra (Defence personnels)
4. Winners of Ashok Chakra, Shourya Chakra and Kirti Chakra. (Civilian awardees are not included)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

5. Winners of President's Police Medal For Gallantry and Police Medal for Gallantry (Police Personnels).
6. Non-official Members of Railway Hindi Salahkar Samiti.
7. One office bearer each of the four organization namely Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad, Nagrik Pracharini Sabha Varanasi, Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Wardha and Akhil Bharatiya Hindi Sansthan engaged in propagation of Hindi.
8. Ex-Minister of Railways/Minister of State for Railways/Deputy Minister for Railways.
9. Bharat Ratna Awardees
10. Complimentary card passes under discretionary powers of Minister of Railways.

In addition to the above, passes are also issued to railway employees under Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986.

Survey of new rail line from Jogighopa to Guwahati

4762. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the Budget provision for Survey of new railway line between Jogighopa- Guwahati Kamakhya *via* Barpeta-Daulasal, Hajo;

(b) whether any action has been taken regarding the survey of the said new rail line and to provide atleast one long distance train stoppage in the sub-divisional headquarters at Bijni and Pathasala of Assam;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) A survey for new line from Jogighopa to Guwahati *via* Barpeta-Sarthebari-Hajo-Sualkuchi (120 km) has been taken up at a cost of Rs. 36 lakhs. The survey is targeted for completion by March, 2011.

Stoppage of 4055/4056 Dibrugarh Town-Delhi Brahmputra Mail at Bijni and that of 5959/5960 Dibrugarh Town-Howrah Kamrup Express at Pathasala have been provided with effect from 23.03.2010.

High speed trains in India

†4763. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating a plan to introduce high speed trains in the country on the lines of trains in Britain;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.