

The expenditure during the year gets firmed up after finalisation of accounts at the end of the year. The provisions for the subsequent years would be made as per the Budget allocations keeping in view the progress of the project.

(b) and (c) Even though New Moynaguri-Jogighopa is not a National Project, priority is being given for its speedy completion.

#### **Rail projects in North Eastern region**

1819. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of doubling and electrification of rail lines in North Eastern Region;
- (b) the completion time of these projects;
- (c) whether these projects would be completed in time; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Doubling of New Guwahati-Digaru (29.81 km) has been taken up and progress is about 70%. The doubling was targeted for completion during 2009-10. However, the progress has suffered due to banning of cutting of hills by State Government and demand for royalty on earth work from Railway. The doubling is now expected to be completed during 2010-11.

As regards, Electrification, Srirampur-New Bongaigaon-Rangiya-Guwahati is a part of Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati electrification project, which is targeted for completion by March 2013.

#### **Loss due to cancellation of trains during foggy weather**

†1820. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of trains delayed in their arrival and departure and the total number of accidents occurred, trains involved, due to fog in recent past;
- (b) whether Government has made any assessment of the total amount of loss incurred due to the delay and accidents of these trains;
- (c) the comprehensive details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has made any scheme to avoid recurrence of these accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) During January 2010, approximately 15704 passenger carrying trains were affected due to fog and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

three end-on-collisions took place in the Automatic Signaling territory on North Central Railway involving the following trains:-

- (i) 4006 Lichchavi Express and 2402 Magadh Express on 02.01.2010.
- (ii) 2556 Gorakhdham Express and 2418 Prayag Express on 02.01.2010.
- (iii) 4724 Kalindi Express and 2452 Shram Shakti Express on 16.01.2010.

(b) and (c) The monetary loss to the Railways is not calculated train-wise or on the basis of punctuality of the train. However, a loss of approximately Rs. 114.30 Lakhs was incurred due to the three accidents of trains mentioned above.

(d) To ensure safe running of trains, speed of trains during fog are kept restricted upto 60 kmph in Absolute Block System and further reduced upto 30 kmph in Automatic Signaling Territory on passing the Double Yellow and Yellow aspects. During dense fog, detonators are placed on the track short of the first stop signal of the station in Absolute Block System. In view of the accidents and the record fog during 2010 the following instructions were issued to the Zonal Railways:-

(i) Loco Pilots were instructed to proceed at near walking speed (kmph) after passing Automatic Signal at red aspect.

(ii) Red flashing tail lamp to be used in the rear most coach even during fog so that the trains following can see the train standing out of course in mid section.

(iii) Loco Pilots were initially advised, as a trial measure for taking increased safety precaution to stop at red aspect of automatic signal for five minutes instead of two minutes or till the signal changes to 'yellow'.

(iv) When the dense fog persisted for a longer duration Loco Pilots on some critical sections were advised to completely stop at red aspect of automatic signal till it becomes yellow and otherwise to proceed only after receiving an authority from the station ahead, at a speed not exceeding 8 kmph.

**1821. The Question was cancelled.**

#### **Development of Railways with private sector**

1822. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking financial assistance from private sector to develop Railways especially the South Central Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the projects which are in the pipeline; and