

(d) the details of avenue likely to be generated with such activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Indian Railways have been moving large volume of agricultural products like foodgrains, vegetables, fruits etc. through its network in railway wagons and parcel vans etc. However, with a view to encourage creation of facilities for setting up of cold storage and temperature controlled cargo centres and its transportation, Railways have put in place a pilot project under its Kisan Vision Scheme. After gaining experience from this pilot project a detailed policy will be issued.

Change of colour of goods trains

3992. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has contemplated to change the existing red colour of railway stations and goods trains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the expenditure so far incurred by Railways in this regard and the budgetary provisions earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Colour washing/painting of Railway stations and other buildings and structures is a routine periodic maintenance exercise undertaken at Divisional and Zonal Railways, keeping in view the local architecture and heritage themes. As regards goods trains, instructions were issued in January, 2009 to colour higher axle load open and covered stainless steel wagons differently, to distinguish them for technical and operational reasons.

(c) No additional expenditure has been incurred due to change in colour of Goods trains or station buildings.

Increase in price of steel

†3993. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consumer sale price of steel have increased a great deal in the country during last three years;

(b) if so, the increase registered in these prices;

(c) whether it is also a fact that reason for increase in these prices is due to increase in prices of raw materials; and

(d) if so, the percentage increase in prices of raw materials along with names of such raw materials and the effect of Government's taxation system on increase in prices?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.