

(b) what are the special efforts undertaken to meet the passengers amenities despite lack of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The strategy available to overcome the constraints of funds is to increase the internal generation besides augmenting extra-budgetary resources through alternate financing routes including public-partnership and joint ventures.

(b) the plan head 'Passenger and Other Railways Users' Amenities' has not suffered for lack of funds as could be seen from the year to year steady growth in budgetary provision:—

(Rupees in crores)

| Year | Revised/Budget Estimates |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 2002-03 | 200.14 |
| 2003-04 | 216.32 |
| 2004-05 | 221.67 |
| 2005-06 | 273.66 |
| 2006-07 | 353.20 |

In addition, improvement in passenger amenities are also carried out as a part of doubling, traffic facilities, gauge conversion and Computerisation Planheads. The Railways are also working on the option of improving passenger amenities in major metro cities and big cities through public-private partnership.

Doubling of Delhi-Muzaffarnagar rail line

†2399. SHRI AMR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any scheme for doubling of Delhi-Muzaffarnagar railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the said project is likely to be started?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Double line already exists between Delhi-Meerut section. There is no scheme under formulation for doubling of Meerut-Muzaffarnagar section.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Public-Private Joint Venture in Railways

†2400. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several projects are being implemented in Railways by Public-Private Sector joint ventures;

(b) if so, the names of these projects and respective capital investment therein by both the sectors;

(c) whether foreign investors are also partners in these projects; and

(d) if so, the names of these projects with respective amount of foreign capital investment therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Infrastructure projects undertaken through joint ventures are:

i. Surendranagar-Pipavav Gauge Conversion Project. Ministry of Railways and Gujarat Pipavav Port Ltd. have invested Rs. 98 crore each in the equity.

ii. Hassan-Mangalore Gauge Conversion Project. The investments made by the participants are as under:

- Ministry of Railways-Rs. 45 crore.
- Government of Karnataka- Rs.45 crore.
- Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Ltd. -Rs. 2 crore.
- New Mangalore Port Trust - Rs. 10 crore.
- M/s Mineral Enterprises Ltd. Rs. 10 crore.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.