

- (b) To examine the adequacy of the existing organisation, equipments and practices for ensuring safe running of trains on Indian Railways and to suggest measures for prevention of accidents;
- (c) Implications of financial investment planning of Railway projects on safety;
- (d). To examine safety measures/equipments/technology as adopted by Railways of some of the advanced countries which would have relevance for Indian Railways and could also be adopted for use on Indian Railways.

The Railway Safety Review Committee has already submitted Part-I of their Report, which has also been placed on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament. It is proposed to take action on those recommendations which will be accepted by the Government depending upon the availability of funds and resources.

Privatisation of Loco and Coach Production Units

2926. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a proposal for privatisation of the loco and coach production units is under consideration;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status of the proposal; and
- (c) whether after privatisation, these units would be able to sustain themselves and be able to compete in the world market to earn valuable foreign exchange for the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir,

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Freight Operation Informations System

2927. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Railways have installed the Freight Operation Information System at certain Railway sections;

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(b) if so, the detailed special features of the system to track the rakes etc; and

(c) the cost of the plans worked out and their detailed phased implementation for extending them to all the Railway Divisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One core module has been made operational on Northern Railway since March, 2000. The System requires information about the rake to be fed once into the computer system at the time the rake enters the computerised territory, thereafter instant access to real time information about the rake, including its whereabouts, is available across the entire Northern Railway.

(c) Total cost of the project as sanctioned is Rs. 1098 crore for the entire Indian Railways. At present, two core modules are expected to be implemented across the Indian Railways by March, 2003 at an estimated cost of Rs. 465 Cr.

Vacant Posts for SCs / STs in Railways

† 2928. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes in the Railways lying vacant; and

(b) the details regarding how and when the vacant posts are proposed to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lying vacant in recruitment categories as on 01.01.2000 was as under:

	SC	ST
Group A	4	5
Group B	3	nil
Group C	1133	943
Group D	911	1566

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.