

(e) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continuing basis by the Railways to enhance safety. These include time replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Anti-collision Device (ACD), Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS), Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), LED Signals and Vigilance Control Device (VCD), etc.

Procurement of new rakes for local trains of Mumbai

†2781. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation (MRVC) has procured new rakes for local trains known as life-line of Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the number thereof and by when;
- (c) whether after this, all local trains of Central Western and Harbour Lines are going to be consisting of 12 coaches; and
- (d) if so, since when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. MRVC has procured EMU rakes under Mumbai Urban Transport Project Phase-I (MUTP Phase-I). Out of 75 rakes of 12-car and 1 rake of 9-car ordered, 69 rakes of 12 cars have already been received from Integral Coach Factory (ICF) and sent to Central and Western Railways for operations. Balance rakes are targeted to be received by June, 2011.

After induction of all rakes of MUTP Phase-I, all fast corridor services and 20% slow corridor services on main lines of Central and Western Railways will be converted to 12-Car rakes. Harbour Line infrastructure is not fit for running of 12-Car services at present.

Construction of over-bridge at Mangaon

†2782. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether to avoid the disruption in the movement of vehicles and accidents the construction of an over bridge on Railway crossing at Mangaon has been sanctioned;
- (b) if so, the length and width of the over bridge;
- (c) whether there is any plan to construct short distance roads on either side below this over bridge; and
- (d) the complete details of this project?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Proposal for construction of an over bridge on railway crossing at Mangaon is low and it does not quality for provision of road over bridge.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Unhygienic bedrolls given in AC coaches of trains

†2783. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether bedroll given to passengers travelling in air conditioned coaches of many Mail/Express trains have torn bed sheets, dirty pillows and blankets that adversely affect the health;

(b) if so, the details of effective steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether cases of encroachment of railway land are increasing and such people attend to their natural calls on the railway track that causes railway passengers to face stench and whether this creates problems in the expansion of railways also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Indian Railways have always endeavored to provide good quality linen to passengers. Regular Checks/Inspections are also carried out at various levels to monitor the level of cleanliness and condition of linen. With a view to further improve upon the standards of cleanliness and hygiene in the linen supplied to passengers in trains, Railways are in the process to set up mechanized laundries at important coaching depots.

(c) No, Sir. Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to remove encroachments as per provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act 1971. Accordingly and as a result, encroachments on Railway have been decreasing.

Establishment of new Divisional Railway Office at Surat

2784. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals under consideration with Government for establishment of new Divisional Railway Offices during current financial year, zone-wise;

(b) the details of new Railway Divisions to be set-up, zone-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to set-up new Railway Division at Surat with inclusion of railway stations of Bharuch, Bardoli, Valsad, Vapi, Nandurbar, Bhilad, etc., of Vadodara and Mumbai divisions with bifurcation of such divisions under the Surat division under western railway; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.