

(b) The Medical College is proposed to be set up at Bhubaneswar with the existing Railway Hospital. Work at site shall commence after award of concession and financial closure is achieved by the concessionaire. The completion of the project is likely to take 4 to 5 years.

(c) No, Sir.

High speed trains in India

†1977. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering a plan to run high speed trains in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any step so far to run the said trains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of routes selected so far by Government to run the said trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) At present, Ministry of Railways has decided only to conduct prefeasibility studies for running of high speed trains on six selected corridors, in consultation with concerned State Governments.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Pantry cars in long distance passenger trains

†1978. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of long distance passenger trains that run more than 24 hours on various routes in the country;
- (b) whether all these trains have pantry cars; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps Government is taken to provide pantry car in these trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Presently, 316 pairs of Express trains are scheduled to run for more than 24 hours on various routes in the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Attachment of pantry cars to the trains is based on various factors such as operational feasibility, priority of the train, journey time, commercial justification,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.