

(c) World class railway station projects are primarily envisaged through private investment and Government funds are required only for preparatory works such as consultancies for feasibility reports and advisory services, for which funds are allocated from time to time, as per requirement from Revenue.

(d) Work at site shall commence after award of concession to the concessionaire and financial closure by the concessionaire. After award of concession, completion of project is likely to take 5-6 years due to complexity of work and necessity to undertake the work while keeping the station operational.

#### **Holiday special trains**

†1858. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways ran 'Holiday Special' trains this year;

(b) if so, the number of trains operated and the number of passengers benefited by them;  
and

(c) the details of places of arrival and departure of these trains in the country and the percentage of passengers travelled by these trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 36161 trips of special trains ran from April 2010 to December 2010 to clear extra rush of passengers across the country. During this period around 57 lakh passengers travelled by these special trains.

(c) No consolidated separate data for arrival and departure of special trains in the country is maintained. However, the number of reserved passengers travelled by the special trains during the above said period were around 2% of the total reserved passengers.

#### **Information regarding vacant seats in running trains**

†1859. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has formulated a policy so as to enable the passenger to know the number of vacant seat in running trains;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this policy would be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) to (c) Following measures have been taken by the Railways to provide information about the number of vacant accommodation in trains:

- (i) Vacant accommodation available in trains in various legs is displayed along with reservation charts.
- (ii) Introduction of Hand Held Terminals as a pilot project on few trains.
- (iii) Display/Announcement at station/Passenger Reservation System (PRS) centers regarding details of trains having vacant accommodation available for booking.
- (iv) Dissemination of information regarding availability of vacant berths at current counters.

#### **Entertainment during travel in local trains**

1860. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether commuters on central local trains in Mumbai can look forward to some entertainment while travelling;

(b) if so, by when and how; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) An Agency has been awarded a contract recently by Central Railway to install, operate and maintain LCD television at its cost and display approved programmes & advertisements on 24 Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) local trains of Mumbai Division.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

#### **STATEMENT BY MINISTER CORRECTING ANSWER TO QUESTION**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Statement by Minister correcting Answer to Question. Shri Arun Yadav.t