

Inquiry into corruption charges

†1821. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 444 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th December, 2010 and state:

(a) when Railways had ordered a vigilance enquiry regarding certain decisions taken during the period extending from the year 2003 to 2008 after receiving information about some allegations in this regard and against whom the enquiry had been ordered; and

(b) by when the said enquiry has been ordered to be completed/will be completed?

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

(a) and (b) The Vigilance Department of Railways was seized of the allegations pertaining to 2003-2008 and a vigilance inquiry was instituted in 2010. Besides, a reference has also been made to CBI for conduct of further investigations. Its outcome is awaited.

Rail projects in the country

†1822. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects in the country sanctioned in various zones by the Railways during the past one decade;

(b) the number of such projects which are still incomplete after starting;

(c) whether any action has been taken against any officer/contractor for failing to meet target fixed at the time of beginning of the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Lack of facilities at railway stations

†1823. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the passenger facilities at various railway stations in the country, where many trains stop, are ignored and there is even no shed available for passengers to protect them from sun and rains;

(b) if so, the number of such stations;

(c) whether any proposal is being considered to provide shed, sufficient number of chairs for passengers, drinking water and other facilities at such stations; and

(d) if so, by when the set target is to be achieved?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Passenger amenities are provided commensurate with the category of station. Augmentation/upgradation of passenger amenities at stations is a continuous exercise and works in this regard are undertaken depending upon the need and volume of the passenger traffic.

(d) Improvement of passenger amenities at all stations is a continuous process. All the essential amenities including platform shelters, seats, potable water, etc. as per norms have already been provided at all stations.

Concessions to senior citizens and handicapped persons

1824. SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that senior citizens, handicapped persons of all categories and some others have been granted concession while travelling in Express and Mail trains only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government proposes to amend the rules and grant similar concession in passenger trains also?

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

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Eligible categories of passengers can avail concession even while travelling by passenger trains. However, the concessions granted for passenger trains are calculated on the basic fares applicable for Mail/Express trains.

(c) No, Sir.