

Rationalisation of project allocation among states

2534. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to rationalize project allocation among various States particularly Punjab State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Since 2002-03, available funds to various projects are being allocated based on State-wise formula in which weightage of 15% each is given to area and population and balance 70% a throwforward of projects in the State. From 2006-07, doubling and Railway Electrification works have been kept out of the purview of this formula.

Accidents due to over utilisation of tracks

2535. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the over utilization of Railway tracks are instrumental for Railway accidents;

(b) whether it is a fact that rejected wagon/coaches are reused more and more in the jurisdiction of Southern Railway;

(c) whether it is also a fact that more accidents happen in Southern Railway; and

(d) whether the causes have been analysed and corrective measures have been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) No, Sir.'

(d) Yes, Sir. Each and every train accident is inquired into either departmentally or by Commissioner of Railway Safety depending upon seriousness of the accident. The staff held responsible according to the

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findings of the Inquiry Committee are taken up under Discipline and Appeal Rules and the accepted recommendations implemented.

Budget provision for new railway lines in Maharashtra

2536. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative figures of budget provision *vis-a-vis* amount spent on new railway lines, widening and doubling of existing rail lines in the State of Maharashtra during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(b) the steps taken by his Ministry to make adequate budgetary provision on these rail lines during the financial year 2006-07; and

(c) what steps have been taken to utilize full provision during the coming financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) The total outlay provided and expenditure incurred for New Line, Gauge conversion and Doubling projects in Maharashtra during 2003-04 and 2004-05 has been Rs. 541 crore and 623.72 crore, respectively. Outlay provided during 2005-06 is Rs. 256.83 crore. The actual expenditure would be known after finalization of yearly accounts.

(b) Rs. 340.44 crore have been proposed during 2006-07 for various projects under the three plan heads falling fully/partly in Maharashtra.

(c) Progress of projects has been expedited to ensure utilization of funds.

Luggage trolleys at major stations

2537. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to provide luggage trolleys at all major railway stations for the convenience of passengers, in a phased manner;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and