

(b) to (d) There is no proposal for introduction of daily train service between Lucknow and Dehradun at present, due to operational and terminal constraints.

Extension of railway line to Sikkim

2160. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of progress made towards extension of railway line to Sikkim;
- (b) whether the pace of work is going on as per schedule or there is any delay and cost over-run;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) Sivok-Rangpo new line has been sanctioned for providing Rail connectivity to Sikkim and the work is in progress.

- (b) The work is progressing as per schedule and according to availability of resources.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Tentative date of completion of the Project is March, 2015.

Train accidents

2161. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of train accidents in the country since May 2009 till date;
- (b) the number of human casualties in these accidents;
- (c) the estimated loss of property due to these accidents;
- (d) whether any punitive action has been initiated against railway personnel found responsible for train accidents;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether all safety-related posts in Railways are filled; and
- (g) if not, the reasons for non filling of safety-related posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) Number of consequential train accidents, i.e., collisions, derailments, manned level crossing

accidents, fire in train and miscellaneous accidents which took place on Indian Railways during May, 2009 to July 2011, is as under:

Types of Accident	2009-10 (May 2009 to March 2010)	2010-11	2011-12 (April to July, 2011)
Collisions	8	5	3
Derailments	74	80	16
Manned Level Crossing Accidents	3	5	1
Fire in Train	1	2	1
Miscellaneous	4	1	0
TOTAL	90	93	21

Note: The above figures do not include incidents of trespassing at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users.

(b) Number of persons who lost their lives and sustained injuries in the above consequential train accidents is as under:

Type of Accident	2009-10 (May 2009 to March 2010)		2010-11		2011-12 (April to July, 2011)	
	Died	Injured	Died	Injured	Died	Injured
Collisions	40	98	239*	298*	0	50
Derailments	14	91	4	53	72@	320@
Manned Level Crossing Accidents	2	3	7	13	0	5
Fire in Train	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	3	35	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	59	227	250	364	72	375

* Includes death of 150 persons and injury to 171 persons in the derailment and collision of Jnaneswari Express on 28.05.2010 near Kharagpur caused due to sabotage.

@ Includes death of 70 persons and injury to 253 persons in the derailment of Kalka Mail on 10.07.2011 in Uttar Pradesh caused due to equipment failure.

(c) Loss of railway property in the above consequential train accidents in 2009-10 (May 2009 to March 2010), 2010-11 and the current year from April to July, 2011 has been estimated to be Rs. 49.66 crores (approx.), Rs. 71.93 crores (approx.) and Rs. 22.00 crores (approx.), respectively.

(d) and (e) During the period from May 2009 to March 2011, major and minor penalties have so far been imposed against 119 and 139 erring officials respectively. Out of these 35 railway officials have been removed/dismissed from railway service during this period.

(f) and (g) Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. The policy of the railway administration is to fill up available vacancies as per laid down procedure. The number of vacant posts in safety category as on 01.04.2010 is 103667. New recruitment policy has been framed and notifications for filling up of most of the safety and operational posts have already been issued.

Demands of passengers travelling on first class ticket in Mumbai local train

†2162. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passengers purchasing the first class ticket or pass in Mumbai local train pay ten times more than the general category ticket or pass;

(b) if so, whether the passengers travelling in first class have expressed their desire to be provided with better facilities, better seats and decoration in the rakes;

(c) if so, the details of these requirements and whether Government is taking it seriously; and

(d) the details thereof?

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

(a) The 1st class Monthly season tickets (MST) fare is around four times the 2nd class MST fare and 1st class single journey fare is around seven to fourteen times the 2nd class single journey fare, depending upon the distance.

(b) Yes, Sir. Some suggestions in this regard have been received.

(c) and (d) The details of requirement given by passengers are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.