

(c) the tentative date of commissioning; and

(d) the investment made so far?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project has been proposed to be set up in Railway land at Adra. Various linkages & clearances like water, coal, environmental clearances etc. are in the process of being obtained. Construction activities & procurement action for major equipments will be initiated after obtaining the approval of the Cabinet.

(c) The plant is likely to be commissioned after 49 months from the date of approval.

(d) No investment has been incurred so far.

Physically handicapped quota in railways

2131. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacancies in Railways and when would it fill up all vacancies in all areas including railway safety;

(b) whether Railways are filling physically handicapped quota in railway recruitments; and

(c) if so, the total number of physically handicapped persons working in Railways, as on date?

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

(a) Arising and filling of vacancies is a continuous process. Vacancies arise due to normal retirement, voluntary retirements, deaths, promotions or creation of posts, etc. The number of vacancies as on 01.04.2010 is as under:

Safety category	103667
Other than safety category	94424

Notifications for filling up of about 1,90,000 posts have been issued.

(b) In terms of provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995, 3% of the posts notified against direct recruitment quota are kept reserved for physically handicapped persons. Notification has already been issued for filling up of 5536 posts identified for disabled persons.

(c) As on 01.04.2010, 9791 Physically Handicapped Persons are working in Railways.

Ongoing railway projects

2132. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ongoing projects in Railways and the total amount required to complete all railway projects in the country;

(b) whether Railways have any action plan for special drive of funds, one time budget provision or Public-Private Partnership model to complete all the projects; and

(c) whether non-completion of railway projects for more than ten years, where public money have been invested, would not be treated as non-performing assets?

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

(a) As on 01.04.2011, there are 129 ongoing New Line, 45 Gauge Conversion and 166 Doubling projects requiring about Rs. 1,25,000 Crores for completion.

(b) Steps have been taken to generate extra budgetary resources through participation by States, Public Private Partnership, funding by Ministry of Defence, declaring some projects as National Projects with additionality from Ministry of Finance and implementation of bankable projects through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited.

For execution of gauge conversion and doubling projects, during 2011-12, Rs. 7400 Crores for gauge conversion & Doubling projects is planned to be raised through "Capital Bond".

(c) No, Sir. Due to limited availability of resources, many projects are commissioned section by section to have better utilization of investment. Also, infrastructure projects have long gestation period depending upon the terrain, issues of land acquisition, forestry clearance, security problems etc.

Freight carrying capacity

2133. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: