

Multi-Modal Transport System

2739. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the latest status of the progress made w.r.t. Multi-Modal Transport System (MMTS) Phase-II for Hyderabad and Secunderabad to reduce the traffic problems in the twin cities;
- (b) the reasons for delay in completing this project; and
- (c) by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Railway Board has already approved the upgradation of Railway Infrastructure for introduction of Multi-Modal Transport System (Phase-II) in twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. The proposal has also been considered and recommended by the Expanded Board for Railways (EBR), The proposal would be carried forward after obtaining the requisite approvals of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Quality of food served in trains

†2740. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that catering services are being provided in long distance trains plying on various routes in the country;
- (b) if so, the details regarding the basis on which the standard of food items served is set;
- (c) whether complaints have been received regarding quality of food being served in the trains;
- (d) if so, the system in place to inspect the quality of food items;
- (e) whether Government proposes concrete arrangements to provide hot and fresh food to the passengers; and
- (f) if so, the details of steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The standard of food items served on Indian Railways is set through issue of Menu and recipe for each item.

(c) to (f) Some cases of complaints have been received on the Railways. A system is in place on the Zonal Railways in which the Supervisors and officers periodically

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

inspect the catering establishments, and also interact with the passengers on the trains to obtain a first hand knowledge of deficiencies observed with feed back from passengers. Due to intensive monitoring and supervision of Railways the number of complaints reported on catering have reduced substantially by 48.2%, since September, 2010 upto July, 2011, in comparison to the corresponding period of last year after the transfer of catering activities to Zonal Railways from Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC). During the period September, 2010 to July, 2011, about 24164 inspections have been carried out by Zonal Railways for the improvement of catering services. Zonal Railways proactively take corrective action on the deficiencies and irregularities found during inspections. For providing hot and fresh food in important trains like Rajdhani/Duronto Express train, a Pantry car is attached to the train which has the facility to keep food fresh through deep freeze/refrigeration equipment; and to serve food hot they have food warmers and hot cases. This facility is also available in the pantry cars attached to a few important Mail/Express train.

For other trains, Train Side Vending facility is being gradually extended to provide satisfactory catering service to passengers. Policy guidelines for the arrangement of Train Side Vending (TSV) to provide good quality hygienic food to passengers in the trains in which pantry cars are not provided, have been issued to the Zonal Railways. Railways have also planned to construct and operate base kitchens at nominated points to provide hot and fresh food to the passengers.

Demand for train service

†2741. SHRI NARAYAN SINGH KESARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether broad gauge conversion on Delhi-Rewari-Neem-ka-Thana-Phulera route has already been completed two years back;

(b) whether any passenger or express train runs through this route during day time;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Chetak Express directly runs through Delhi-Rewari-Neem-ka-Thana-Reengus-Jaipur route;

(e) if so, the reasons why this train doesn't run daily and the actual running time of this train as this train mostly runs without passengers; and

(f) whether Railways propose to run direct train/restart passenger train during day time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

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