

Improvement in condition of Railways

†2772. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for no improvement in the situation despite spending lakhs of rupees every year on the safety of train passengers, maintenance of trains and beautification of stations;
- (b) whether action would be taken against the guilty railway officials for making no improvement in situation of train accidents, safety of passengers and condition of stations;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The number of consequential train accidents on account of Collisions, Derailments, Fire, Manned Level Crossings and other Miscellaneous reasons on Indian Railways have declined from 335 in 2001-02 to 269 in 2002-03, 239 in 2003-04, 169 in 2004-05, 169 in 2005-06, 123 in 2006-07, 129 in 2007-08, 115 in 2008-09, 100 in 2009-10 and further to 93 in 2010-11. There has been marked improvement in Safety record of Indian Railways.

As regards beautification of stations which is a continuous process, the condition/amenities of the stations have improved wherever the work of upgradation/improvement/beautification of station has been taken up.

(b) to (d) Disciplinary action has been taken against the erring officials found responsible for train accidents. During 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and the current year from April to July, 2011, major and minor penalties have so far been imposed on 200 and 273 Railway officials, respectively. Out of these, 80 Railway officials have been removed/dismissed from Railway service during this period.

Gauge conversion in Gujarat

†2773. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of railway lines surveyed in Gujarat during last three years for conversion into broad gauge;
- (b) the steps taken by Railways for conversion of these railway lines (including Amreli) of Gujarat into broad gauge as per the survey; and
- (c) if so, the time-limit for conversion of these railway lines into broad gauge and the details of funds made available for this scheme?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.