

#### **Electrification of Lucknow-Allahabad-Delhi route**

1370. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of sections of Lucknow-Allahabad-Delhi route electrified so far;
- (b) the time-frame by when this route would be electrified;
- (c) by when Government plans to start train services on this route;
- (d) whether Government would start EMU service from Lucknow via Saharanpur to Bareilly section of this electrified route in view of commercial viability and convenience of thousands of passengers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Allahabad-Delhi via Kanpur and Kanpur-Lucknow are already electrified. As far as electrification of Lucknow-Allahabad-Delhi route is concerned, work is in progress on Lucknow-Utratia and Allahabad-Phaphamau-Unchahar sections. There is no proposal at present to electrify Unchahar-Rae Bareilly - Utratia rail line as the electrification of railway tracks is decided based on financial viability, traffic volume and operational flexibility.

(b) Physical work of electrification of Lucknow-Utratia section is already completed. Electrification of Allahabad-Phaphamau-Unchahar is a part of Varanasi-Unchahar including Phaphamau-Allahabad electrification project and has been planned for completion by March' 2013.

(c) to (e) Introduction of New train services including EMU services on Indian Railways is dependent on various factors including operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Extension of Maharajas' Express to Bhubaneswar**

1371. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering a proposal submitted by the Government of Odisha on extension of Maharajas' Express-Classical India train service to Bhubaneswar to give fillip to tourism industry;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Demand for stoppage of Raurkela-Bhubaneswar Inter-city Express**

†1372. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the demand for stoppage of Raurkela-Bhubaneswar inter-city Express at Boinda station under East Coast Railway is pending for quite some time;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of agitations like 'Rail-Roko' etc. have been organised with regard to this issue and several meetings with the management have also taken place; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when this demand would be met?

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Stoppage of 18105/18106 Rourkela-Bhubaneswar Intercity Express has been provided at Boinda w.e.f. 15.12.2011 on an experimental basis for six months.

**Menace of touts**

1373. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have failed to curb the menace of touts who become more active during the festive season;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the further steps taken to curb this menace;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.