

| 1  | 2                        | 3      | 4       | 5    | 6   |
|----|--------------------------|--------|---------|------|---|
| 8. | Saradiya-Shapur-Junagarh | 104.49 | 2011-12 | 1.00 | Work has been taken up as a material modification to Rajkot-Viraval, Wansjalia-Jetalsar gauge conversion project. |
| 9. | Ahmedabad-Mehsana        | 68.78  | —       | —    | Project has not been sanctioned.  |

(c) All the sanctioned projects are progressing as per availability of resources.

#### Quality of food provided in long distance trains

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no arrangement of sugar-free tea and coffee in long distance trains and at stations and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that complaints about quality of food provided by Railways have kept pouring in, if so, the arrangement in place for their examination from time-to-time and the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to make sound arrangement for providing fresh food to passengers and if so, efforts being made regarding this and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. Sugar free tea and coffee are being supplied to passengers, on demand only, in long distance trains and at stations.

(b) Yes, Sir. Complaints are being received which are being regularly redressed. After the introduction of New Catering Policy, 2010, issued on 21.07.2010, the management of catering services has been shifted from Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to Zonal Railways. Due to intensive supervision and monitoring by Zonal Railways the complaints have been reduced by 49.9% during October, 2010 to September, 2011, in comparison to the corresponding period of last year, when the management of catering services was under IRCTC.

(c) For provision of fresh food arrangements of attachment of pantry car in important trains like Rajdhani/Duronto Express trains and some Mail/Express trains have been made. For other trains, Train Side Vending facility is being gradually extended wherein fresh meals are picked up at enroute stations.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.