

increased to a level 45.549 million tonnes in 2011-12, out of which approximate 14.262 million tonnes were moved to shore based power plants which did not require movement by rail. Out of the balance 31.287 million tonnes coal which was imported, the railways evacuated 30.897 million tonnes and only 0.390 million tonnes were available at the ports. The capacity of the Railways are adequate to meet the demand for imported coal barring seasonal bunching of imported coal at ports. This has been made possible by a proper planning process wherein a logistics plan linking various ports to various plants has been formulated.

(c) Adequate measures are being taken by Railways to ease evacuation/ transportation of coal on Indian Railway Network. A total of 3077.46 Kms. of new lines, doubling and gauge conversion at cost of Rs. 17088.82 crores have been sanctioned and are in various stages of progress for primarily coal bearing routes. This excludes projects being undertaken on deposit term basis from coal companies. In addition, the Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors which are slated to come up by the terminal year of the Twelfth plan will primarily cater to both domestic and imported coal movement on the Eastern sector and imported coal movement on the Western sector.

In addition the Railways are substantially increasing their fleet of rolling stock to meet coal movement. In the year 2011-12, 11683 number of coal loading wagons were inducted into Indian Railway. Moreover, the wagons being inducted are cleared for higher pay load and speed.

Status of Kanchrapara-Halisahar Railway Complex

2630. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Kanchrapara-Halisahar Railway Complex;
- (b) whether it is running behind schedule; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The works relating to land development, electric supply arrangements, road and rail connectivity are in progress.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

Deputation system in Railways

2631. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether deputation system in Railways is only adding to its financial burden;

(b) the total number of railway officers working in other departments and different corporations of Railways and whether they are getting deputation allowance; and

(c) if so, the total amount being paid by Railways and other railway linked corporations as deputation allowance during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. Deputation is one of the options for posts categorised as deputation posts to harness core competence within the Government. This option may be cheaper than the option to employ people from open market, both in tangible and intangible terms.

(b) 667 Railway officers are on deputation to Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and other Government organisations as on 31.03.2012. Deputation allowance is payable as per instructions of Department of Personnel and Training for deputations assigned as eligible for deputation allowance.

(c) Railway owned PSUs, on an average, incur an annual expenditure, of Rs. 150 lakh on payment of deputation allowance.

High speed train projects

2632. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the projects received for high speed trains between various cities in the country;

(b) the details of such projects received from Government of Karnataka;

(c) when were these proposals received;

(d) the estimated cost of these projects; and

(e) the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. No projects have been received for sanction. However, some of the State Governments have suggested corridors for undertaking feasibility studies.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Cost overruns in projects

2633. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has estimated that there are several projects in the country that have slipped into cost overruns;