

Plan (2003-2013) was formulated. The implementation of recommendations is reviewed periodically to further improve safety and the present status is as following:

- (i) Accidents per million train kms. has already reduced to 0.15 in the year 2010-11 from 0.44 in 2002-03.
- (ii) As a result of various measures initiated in upgrading rolling stock, track and signalling systems, the chances of passenger fatality have come down.
- (iii) There is an overall reduction in consequential number of accidents from 161 (2003-04) to 56 (2010-11) attributable to human failure. However, human failure still continues to be one of the major causes of accidents. Development of manpower, regular training and improvement in working conditions is a continuous process and it is being pursued by Indian Railways with all seriousness.
- (iv) By conducting safety workshops, seminars, counseling, regular training of staff, etc. there is substantial improvement in safety culture at all places.
- (v) There is a reduction in number of consequential train accidents attributable to equipment failures from 18 (2003-04) to 5 (2010-2011) due to adoption of 'fail-proof' systems philosophy.
- (vi) Priority to safety related projects is always given in planning and implementation.
- (vii) 217 RSRC recommendations have been implemented out of the total 236 number of recommendations accepted.

(c) Targets of Corporate Safety Plan are given utmost importance in all the planning and implementation processes. Its progress is monitored on continuous basis and corrective steps are taken wherever required. Railways will concentrate to strive to achieve all the targets of corporate safety plan before the end of the plan in 2013.

Wagon factory at Cherthala

1968. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether RITES has completed the study on setting up of a wagon factory in Cherthala;
- (b) if not, the reasons for delay;
- (c) the time-frame for starting the wagon factory as a joint venture of the Centre and State Government; and
- (d) by when would the construction of second coach terminal at Kochuveli and Nemom be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) No, Sir. RITES was not awarded a study for setting up of the Wagon Factory at Cherthala.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Land availability for setting up the wagon factory at Alappuzha in Joint Venture/Public Private Partnership (JV/PPP) mode is yet to be confirmed by State Government. Further action can only be initiated thereafter.

(d) The work of construction of 2nd Coaching Terminal at Kochuveli is in progress. No target date has been fixed.

Coaching terminal at Nemam is not yet sanctioned.

Whistle-blower policy

1969. SHRI R.C. SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are mulling over introducing whistle-blower policy to discourage misuse of Tatkal reservation and nab touts who sell tickets in black;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) whether any consultations have been held with the stakeholders in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) With a view to reduce the chances of misuse of Tatkal scheme, the scheme has already been modified on various accounts *e.g.* issuing of Tatkal tickets only on production of self attested photocopy of one of the 9 prescribed proofs of identity mentioned in the scheme and carrying the same proof of identity during the journey, reduction of Advance Reservation Period from two days excluding the day of journey to one day excluding the day of journey, non-granting of any refund on cancellation of confirmed Tatkal ticket, non-issue of Duplicate Tatkal tickets, denying access to Tatkal bookings to authorized agents both through internet as well as across the computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters between 08:00 hrs and 10:00 hrs., restriction of booking of a maximum of four passengers per Passenger Name Record (PNR) on Tatkal ticket and booking of only one Tatkal ticket per train per day on internet after 10:00 A.M. by Web service agents. Improvements/modifications in the reservation system is a continuous process.

(c) and (d) The above said modifications have been done on the basis of feedback received from various sources.