

(b) No, Sir. All the trains are being provided with fire extinguishers in SLRs (Guard cum Brakevan) and in locomotive for attending fire emergencies. Besides, all AC coaches and pantry cars in trains are also provided with fire extinguishers. Doors and emergency windows in functional condition are provided in all the trains. Vestibules serve as exit route to adjacent coaches.

(c) and (d) Regular inspections are carried out for all safety equipment. It is ensured that all fire extinguishers are refilled at their due time. Regular exercise are carried out to check the knowledge of staff to operate the firefighting equipment by the individual department. Indian Railways have adopted fire retardant interior finishing material including wall paneling, flooring, roof paneling to minimize the risk of fire accidents.

(e) and (f) Two types of Safety Audits are being conducted by Railways regularly, *i.e.* one by individual railway of its own divisions once in two month period and another inter railway safety audit which is conducted twice a year. *i.e.* from January to June and July to December. Safety Audit is conducted by a team of five Senior Administrative Grade (SAG) level officers of Civil, Mechanical, Signal, Electrical and Safety departments. The teams carry out audit/inspections and focus on pinpointing deficiencies found in the system including ancillary activities, staff training, material supply, availability of funds, system failures, defective policies/rules etc. Zonal Railways submit their Reports/Action taken reports to the Ministry of Railways. These reports are analysed by the Railway Board which gives them further necessary instructions as and when necessary.

Railway materials lying along Railway tracks

†3065. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of railway materials is lying along the railway tracks in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has got a survey done to ascertain the value of this material;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these materials are slowly eroding away in the absence of proper maintenance; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) whether Government proposes to draw any action plan for their disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Materials are kept along the railway tracks temporarily during track maintenance and renewals which is a continuous and ongoing exercise. After completion of the maintenance work, released materials are collected and stacked at suitable locations for disposal through auction. Some quantity of serviceable materials is kept for re-use also.

- (c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir. Every year an action plan for disposal of scrap materials is made and targets are fixed based upon likely generation of the Permanent Way scrap.

Development of Industrial Rail Corridor

3066. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Ministry would consider the proposal for development of dedicated Industrial Rail Corridor of Meramandali, Angul-Talcher, Chhendipada which is to be connected with 57 number of industries based on coal, Integrated Steel Plants, Power Generating units, generating rail traffic of 113 MTPA and the Rail Corridor for Nayagarh, Keonjhar belt for industries based on iron ore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): There is no such proposal at present.

Railway projects announced in last year's budget

3067. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many railway projects were announced in last year's budget without conducting any feasibility study beforehand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any assessment/progress report has been conducted on the various projects announced;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?