

- (a) whether heads of Metro Rail Corporations of all States have demanded for independent regulator for technical control to carry out Metro-specific activities;
- (b) whether the current system of a single body Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO), giving technical approvals to both Railways as well as Metro, is delaying Metro projects;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government in this regard;
- (d) whether suggestion to appoint a separate Commissioner of Metro Rail Safety, for faster safety certification of the Metros, is being considered by Government; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. There is no demand for Independent regulator for technical control to carry out the Metro-specific activities.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Section 7 of the Metro Railways (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002 stipulates appointment of one or more Commissioners of Metro Railway Safety by the Central Government. However, there is no such proposal with this Ministry at present.

Mandatory Photo ID Cards for passengers

3060. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is making it mandatory for passengers travelling in trains to carry their Photo ID Cards for security purposes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when this is going to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) With a view to reduce chances of misuse of reservation system by unscrupulous elements, it has been prescribed that

passengers have to produce original proof of identity during the journey in the following cases:—

- (i) For e-tickets, any one of the passengers booked on the ticket has to produce any one of the prescribed proofs of identity in original.
- (ii) For Tatkal tickets, the original proof of identity as indicated on the ticket.
- (iii) For journey in Air-conditioned classes (except 3E class), any one of the passengers booked on the ticket has to produce any one of the prescribed proofs of identity in original.

For other than Tatkal and e-tickets, no instructions regarding production of Proof of identity while travelling in non Air-conditioned classes have been issued, so far.

Reduction in budgetary allocation for projects in Odisha

3061. SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have slashed an amount of ₹ 186 crore from budgetary allocation to different projects in Odisha;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the reduction is in consonance with the constitutional provisions; and
- (d) as the Appropriation Bill was passed by the House of the People under Article 114 of the Constitution, under which Article the reduction has been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) Article 114 of the Constitution does not restrict modification in allocations shown in the Appropriation Bill to match the overall resource availability. This is an ongoing exercise emanating from periodic budgetary reviews. The overall allocation to East Coast Railway has been accordingly modified which impacts several States, including Odisha.

Quality and price of food served

3062. SHRI JOY ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: