

Overhauling and servicing of railway coaches

1509. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during safety audits by Commissioners of Railway Safety, it has been found that thousands of railway coaches being run have not been overhauled or serviced ignoring the safety of passengers, particularly in Central, Northern and NE railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise;

(c) the reasons therefor, zone-wise;

(d) whether responsibility would be fixed for not overhauling/servicing railway coaches in spite of clear rules in this regard;

(e) if so, the details of action taken in this regard, zone-wise; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. No coach overdue Periodical Overhauling (POH) is allowed to run in service on Indian Railways in contravention to laid down maintenance norms. All the coaches are overhauled as per laid down prescribed schedules in all Zonal Railways.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Availability of working instructions at railway level crossings

1510. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that working instructions, which is a must at the level crossings is not being made available at the level crossings/railway gates in vernacular language;

(b) whether deviations if any, have been identified at the railway level crossings in Jharkhand; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Working instructions for level crossing gates are being issued in Hindi and English. Wherever felt necessary, Zonal Railways make them available in vernacular language also.

- (b) No, Sir.

- (c) Does not arise.

Safety standards

1511. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that despite being one of the largest employers in the world, Railways are several decades behind global standards when it comes to safety;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering to improve safety aspects in trains as well as at railway stations; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. Various safety standards of world class have been adopted in different departments of Indian Railways to prevent train accidents keeping in view the practical feasibility in Indian conditions and financial constraints of the railways.

- (b) Does not arise.

- (c) and (d) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being introduced to prevent