

Railway tracks in North-east, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand

1528. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of railway tracks in North-East, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand; and

(b) the proposals for laying new railway tracks in these regions alongwith their details, plan outlay and time-frame so fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) 2450.95 km of Railway Network in North East Region, 296.26 km in Himachal Pradesh and 344.91 km in Uttarakhand exist as on 01.04.2011 (As per latest compilation available).

Details of new line projects in progress in North East (NE) Region, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand alongwith their length, total cost and outlay during the current year are as under:

(Rs. in Crores)					
Sl. No.	State	No. of projects	Length of ongoing projects	Total cost of ongoing projects	Outlay in 12-13 for ongoing projects
1.	Assam and NE Region	13	965.04	22575.88	1490.00
2.	Himachal Pradesh	3	180.07	4025.13	26.00
3.	Uttarakhand	4	210.24	4871.12	55.50

During the year 2012-13, 115.75 km. of new lines are targeted for completion in N.E. Region.

These projects will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

Introduction of fast moving trains

1529. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways would consider introduction of fast moving main line MEMU trains between Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Bhubaneswar, Bhubaneswar-Khurda Road-Puri, Bhubaneswar-Khurda Road-Berhampur, Bhubaneswar-Dhenkanal-Angul-Talcher, Cuttack-Paradeep and Rourkela-Rajgangpur-Jharsuguda;

(b) whether DMU service would be introduced between Titlagarh-Sambalpur-Jharsuguda sections; and

(c) whether stations at aforesaid places would be remodelled and upgraded with modern passenger amenities for the suburban passengers/commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present there is no such proposal.

(c) Upgradation of stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken based on need, *inter-se* priority of stations and availability of funds.

Manning of unmanned railway level crossings

1530. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Railways are planning to man the unmanned railway level crossings at Bandalo, Korai, Jodabar railway plot or construct the underway bypass at these places alongwith extension of railway foot over bridge with the provision of passing of two wheelers like cycle, motorcycle and rickshaw at Jajpur Keonjhar Road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): The details are as under:

- (i) **Bandalo:-** The Level Crossing (LC) No. 167 near Bandalo is an unmanned LC with negligible traffic. State Government has been requested for approving its closure from safety considerations. Consent of State Government for closure of LC is still awaited.
- (ii) **Korai:-** There is one manned LC No. 137 and another unmanned LC No. 136 leading to Korai village. There is a proposal to provide Subway at both the LCs. However, consent of State Govt. for closure of LCs is still awaited.
- (iii) **Jodabar:-** The unmanned LC No. 143 leading to Jodabar village is proposed to be replaced with a Subway. The work has been sanctioned and the consent for closure of LC from District Magistrate has been received.