

1	2	3	4	5	6
South Western	August-2012	-	-	3	-
	September-2012	-	-	-	-
	October-2012	-	-	2	-
Western	August-2012	-	-	3	-
	September-2012	-	-	4	-
	October-2012	-	-	4	2
West Central	August-2012	-	2	2	4
	September-2012	-	-	3	6
	October-2012	-	-	-	4

**Recommendation of Expert Committee on modernization
of Railways**

267. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1357 given in Rajya Sabha on 2 December, 2011 and state:

- (a) the details of the Expert Committee's final report; and
- (b) how many recommendations have been accepted and how many are still under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The Ministry of Railways constituted an Expert Group for Modernization of Indian Railways on 21.09.2011 under the Chairmanship of Shri Sam Pitroda to, *inter-alia*, recommend ways and means to modernize Indian Railways.

The Group has submitted its report on 27.02.2012.

The Group has made recommendations pertaining to modernisation of tracks and bridges, signalling systems, rolling stock, stations and terminals, PPP initiatives, utilisation of land and airspace, construction of Dedicated Freight Corridors, High-

speed Passenger Corridors, expeditious implementation of 'priority' projects, harnessing Information and Communication Technology, indigenous development and safety. It has recommended mobilisation of resources for the aforesaid purposes along with Human Resource Development to increase specialisation and some organisational changes.

(b) The recommendations are presently under examination in the Ministry of Railways.

Setting up of thermal power plants

268. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have planned to set up its own captive thermal power plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which it would help in reducing Railways' cost of operation;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to set up such a plant in Maharashtra too; and
- (e) if so, where the plant is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Indian Railways (IR) is establishing its first coal based captive power plant of 1000 Mega Watt (MW) capacity at Nabinagar in Bihar in Joint Venture (JV) with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), which is under construction.

Indian Railways has further planned to set up two more captive power plants in Railway land, one 1320 MW capacity coal based power plant at Adra in Purulia District of West Bengal in Joint Venture with National Thermal Power Corporation and another 700 MW gas based power plant at Thakurli near Kalyan in Maharashtra. Fuel linkage and environmental clearance for both these plants are in process.

Annual saving of about Rs. 500 crore from Nabinagar plant, Rs. 600 crore from Adra plant and Rs. 200 crore from Thakurli plant has been estimated due to reduction in electricity tariff.