

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) As per extant policy guidelines wherever Rail Neer packaged drinking water bottles (PDW) is not adequately available, other BIS (Bureau of Indian Standard) approved packaged drinking water bottles having requisite laid down standards, are shortlisted by Zonal Railways and permitted for sale over the Railways. To ensure adequate availability of Rail Neer, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has set up three drinking water plants at Nangloi (Delhi) and Danapur (Bihar) and Palur (Tamil Nadu) for production of 1 litre packaged drinking water bottles. Apart from this, six bottling plants are to be set up by IRCTC at Ambala, Amethi, Mal, Nasik, Farakka and Trivandrum as announced in Railway Budget 2010-11.

(e) The sale price of Rail Neer is based on the cost of production and distribution.

#### **Poor condition of railway stations**

914. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many railway stations in Maharashtra that are in a dilapidated condition due to poor maintenance;

(b) whether it is also a fact that shelters on the platform are breaking apart and during rains, water leaks and flows onto the platforms;

(c) if so, the corrective measures Railways would take to improve conditions at the stations; and

(d) if so, the names of those railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) No railway station in Maharashtra is in dilapidated condition. However, repair and maintenance of infrastructure including platform shelters is a continuous process. Corrective action is taken for repairs/rectification whenever deficiencies are noticed either as a result of regular inspections or through public complaints.

#### **Disinvestment in PSUs under Railways**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to sell its stakes in Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR) and Indian Railway Construction Company Limited (IRCON); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Railway infrastructure in NE**

916. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are aware that its present infrastructure in all States of the North-Eastern Region (NER) is lagging behind in comparison to rest of the country;

(b) if so, whether Railways have taken up any special package to improve the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by Railways in this regard; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. Except for Assam, Railway network density in all North Eastern States is lower than the National Average rail network density.

(b) to (e) Railways have taken up projects to connect all State capitals of North Eastern States except Sikkim. Presently 13 new lines, 4 gauge conversion and one doubling project have been taken up in North Eastern Region which on completion will augment railway network by 2520 km in N.E. Region. A Dedicated North East Region Rail Development Fund (NERRDF) has also been created for execution of National Projects of NE Region.

#### **Railway projects in Uttarakhand**

917. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: