

Bio-toilets in trains

*118. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has installed bio-toilets in all the trains being operated by South Central Railway;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) So far nine trains are provided with 504 bio toilets for in-service trials. Based on the experience gained and outcome of these trials, it is planned to induct bio-toilets progressively in the trains. No separate plan for South Central Railway has been worked out. No Railway-wise introduction of bio-toilets is planned yet.

Recommendations of the Sam Pitroda and the Anil Kakodkar Committees

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

- (a) whether Government is mulling to consider the recommendations of the Sam Pitroda and the Anil Kakodkar Committees on modernization and safety of Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how many recommendations of these Committees have been accepted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Expert Group for modernization of Indian Railways chaired by Sam Pitroda and of the High level Safety Review Committee chaired by Dr. Anil Kakodkar have been received.

The recommendations of the Expert Group for Modernisation of Indian Railways include those 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. It has also provided a blue print for next five years for modernization of Indian Railways.

The High Level Safety Review Committee has made recommendations including general safety matters, organizational structure, empowerment at working level, safety related works and issues, manpower planning issues, shortage of critical safety spares, external interference-encroachment and sabotage, signalling, telecommunication and train protection, modernisation of rolling stock, tracks and bridges, level crossings, fire prevention of trains, road and level crossings and funding issues, human resource development with emphasis on education and training, training institutes on Indian Railways, research eco-system on Indian Railways and safety architecture on Indian Railways.

Both sets of recommendations are under examination in the Ministry of Railways.

Consideration for giving DMS units to GCMMF on lease

†*120. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to give processing and distribution units of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) to Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Limited, (GCMMF), (Amul) on lease;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether GCMMF would employ the staff of DMS; and

(d) if not, Government's reaction in this regard and the steps being taken to save the staff of DMS from unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) There is no proposal to give processing and distribution units of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) on lease to Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF). However, the Chairman, GCMMF has written to Government proposing to take up the operation of DMS. GCMMF has been requested to submit a comprehensive and detailed proposal covering various aspects of the matter. Such proposal has not been received from GCMMF.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.