

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) The project was conceptualized in the year 1994.

(b) No physical survey was conducted before giving approval to this line. However, abstract cost was worked out based on the study of toposheets and aerial survey.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No major change in the alignment of the project has taken place. However, following the difficulties faced during construction of Katra-Qazigund section of the project, an Expert Committee was appointed to examine various issues involved including alternative alignment and as per the recommendations of the said committee, the old alignment was retained with certain local re-alignments/abandonments of certain stretches.

(e) Northern Railway has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRCL) and IRCON International Ltd. for construction of this project. MoU came into force in August, 2005 and January, 2004 with KRCL and IRCON respectively and the respective MoUs are still in force.

(f) Does not arise.

Increasing frequency of trains

†4159. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to increase the frequency of different trains running on weekly and alternative day basis, which pass through Rajasthan, in view of rising number of passengers and their convenience; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Indian Railways do not operate trains on State-wise basis as railway network cuts across State boundaries. However, the following increase in frequency of the trains, as announced in the Railway Budget 2013-2014, serve the State of Rajasthan:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Train No.	Old frequency/ New frequency
1.	12455/12456 Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Sriganga Nagar Exp. (Announced in Parliament House during discussion on Railway Budget 2013-2014)	3 to 7 days
2.	12547/12548 Agra Fort-Ahmedabad Express	3 to 7 days
3.	19409/19410 Gorakhpur-Ahmedabad Express	1 to 2 days
4.	12217/12218 Kochuveli-Chandigarh Express	1 to 2 days

Further, increase in the frequency of trains is an ongoing process on Indian Railways, subject to operational feasibility, availability of resources, traffic justification etc.

Provisions in Railway Budget to reduce train delays

4160. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Budget 2013-14 contains any provision to reduce train delays due to adverse climatic conditions, including fog, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During rainy season, tracks get flooded. Provision of redundancy in track detection system improves availability of signalling system in flood prone locations and provision of Rs. 31.26 crore has been made in the Railway Budget 2013-14 for same.

Train Protection Warning System (TPWS) and Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) improve train operations and reduce train delay during adverse climate conditions including fog. Provision of Rs. 76.74 crore and Rs. 33.5 crore has been made in the Railway Budget 2013-14 for TPWS and MTRC respectively.

(c) Does not arise.