

Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Scheme

†608. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the completion schedule of the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Scheme and whether this Scheme is running as per schedule;
- (b) whether this Scheme would be completed in time and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total amount spent *vis-à-vis* the total estimated expenditure on this scheme;
- (d) the status of progress of this Scheme in Khurja, Meerut, Saharanpur and Ambala area; and
- (e) by when this corridor would be operationalized in this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (e) The implementation of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor is divided into 3 sections based on the funding sources. These sections and their completion schedules are:—

- (i) Ludhiana-Khurja-Kanpur-Mughalsarai section (1183 km.) is being funded by World Bank to the extent of 66% of project cost in 3 phases sequentially *i.e.* Khurja-Kanpur (343 km.), Kanpur-Mughalsarai (393 km.) and Ludhiana-Khurja-Dadri (447 km.) sectors. Loan Agreement for the first sector *viz.* Khurja-Kanpur was signed in October, 2011 and civil construction contract has been awarded in January, 2013. This sector is targeted for completion in March, 2017. The Loan Appraisal/Agreement and procurement thereafter for the second and third sectors *viz.* Kanpur-Mughalsarai and Dadri-Khurja-Ludhiana are scheduled to be concluded in 2013-14 and in 2014-15 respectively. The completion of work is likely to take 48 months after the award of the contract.
- (ii) Mughalsarai-Sonnagar section (122 km.) is being funded by Indian Railway's resources. Construction work is in progress and the complete section would be commissioned by December, 2015.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iii) Sonnagar-Dankuni section (534 km.) is to be funded through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) and implementation would be dependent on the response.

The cost of Eastern DFC Project (including land) is currently estimated at Rs. 43,535 crore. Till now, Rs 2971.09 crore have been spent on this project in land acquisition and construction.

In the Khurja, Saharanpur, Meerut, Ambala area of the Khurja-Ludhiana Sector of the Eastern DFC, land acquisition is at an advanced stage. Out of 766 Hectares of land to be acquired for this sector, notification under section 20A of Railway Amendment Act (RAA 2008) has been issued for 647 Hectares (84%) and 20F Award has been declared for 632 Hectares (83%).

Condition of railway stations in North-Eastern States

609. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are many railway stations in North-Eastern States that are not in good condition due to poor maintenance, especially in Assam;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that shelters on some platforms are breaking apart and during rains, water leaks and flows onto the platforms;
- (c) if so, whether corrective measures would be taken by Railways to improve the condition at such stations; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) No railway station in North-Eastern States, including those in Assam is in poor 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.

Concessions in freight for refined salt

610. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways grant concession in freight in respect of ordinary iodized salt;