

trains is about three minutes. Commuters can thus use the toilet facilities which are available on all suburban stations.

Shortfall in revenue

1057. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have registered a shortfall in revenue during the first half of current financial year, if so,, the details thereof; and

(b) the reasons for this shortfall in spite of the passenger fare and freight charge having been increased by Railways in the recent past?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Railways have registered a shortfall in revenue to the tune of Rs.4121.49 crore as compared to budget proportion during the first half of current financial year *i.e.* from April 2013 to September 2013 as detailed below:-

(Rs. in crore)			
Traffic earnings	Budget Proportion upto September 2013	Total earning (revenue) upto September 2013	Shortfall
Passenger	20624.85	17580.16	-3044.69
Other Coaching	1658.89	1776.52	117.63
Goods	44327.32	43042.89	-1284.43
Sundry	1528.24	1618.24	90.00
TOTAL	68139.30	64017.81	-4121.49

However, there is an increase of Rs. 5936 crore in revenue during this period as compared to the corresponding period of the previous financial year *i.e.* from April 2012 to September 2012.

(b) In the passenger segment, the shortfall is primarily due to lesser number

of originating passengers, class mix and reduction in advance ticket booking from 120 days to 60 days. In Goods segment, while the loading target has been exceeded, the shortfall in earnings is due to fall in average lead, commodity mix and restriction on mining activities in various parts of the country.

Qualification bids for diesel loco factories

1058. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have made it clear that there would be no change in the qualification bids approved earlier for the diesel loco factories;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that some Chinese companies have demanded revision of bidding criteria for electric loco and diesel loco factories; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the response given to Chinese companies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) : (a) No such clarification has been issued at any stage.

(b) and (c) For Diesel Locomotive factory project, no Chinese company has demanded revision of bidding criterion.

For Electric Locomotive factory project, a Chinese Company had written to Ministry of Railways in June, 2013 that the eligibility criteria requiring supply of Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor (IGBT) based locomotives, to three countries, may be deleted. The same was also raised by them as a pre-bid query. However, no changes were made to the provision as the same criteria was used in the Request for Qualification (RFQ) carried out in year 2010 and the current provision was also approved by the Cabinet before invitation of RFQ applications in May, 2013. The query was responded alongwith the pre-bid queries of all other applicants. The above company has however submitted RFQ application in September, 2013.

New stainless steel rakes for Mumbai local EMU trains

†1059. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a plan to run new EMU trains with stainless steel rakes for Mumbai local trains;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.