

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.

- (b) if so, the time by which and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of changes made in these new rakes for passenger amenities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

Integral Coach Factory shall be manufacturing 72 stainless steel EMU rakes of 12 car equipped with Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor (IGBT) based 3-phase propulsion system supplied by M/s. Bombardier Transportation under Mumbai Urban Transport Project Phase-II. ICF has so far manufactured two prototype rakes for Mumbai area. Presently, tests and trials on these two rakes are in progress and is likely to be completed by March 2014. After successful completion of these tests and trials, balance 70 rakes will be manufactured in the next two years, 2014-15 and 2015-16.

The following changes for passenger amenities are made in these new rakes:

- (i) Passenger Information System with double sided displays for better visibility to the commuters,
- (ii) Cushioned seats with stainless steel frame in First Class and polycarbonate seats with stainless steel frames in Second Class,
- (iii) Central duct with light fittings on both sides for improved aesthetics,
- (iv) Improved ventilation system,
- (v) Stainless steel luggage racks with hand hold arrangement for passengers standing between seats.

Pending railway projects in West Bengal

1060. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various on-going/pending railway projects in West Bengal;
- (b) whether the Ministry has taken up steps to expedite the pending projects in the State;