

(b) A number of steps have been taken to generate extra-budgetary resources through Public Private Partnership, participation by State Government and beneficiaries and implementation of projects by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited to expedite the completion of ongoing works.

In view of large throw forward of ongoing projects, no new project for New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling are proposed.

As regards Electrification works, various steps have been taken, which *inter-alia* include award of turn-key contracts, cultivation of new agencies for works and better project monitoring mechanism etc.

Manual labour for cleaning tracks

1067. SHRI N.K. SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways continue to employ manual labour for cleaning railway tracks and waste output from trains;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to introduce a sanitary waste disposal system for Railways; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Waste outputs such as papers, disposable glasses, wrappers etc. are being cleaned manually in Coach “Maintenance Depots or at Terminating stations.

In order to have effective waste disposal system, concrete washable aprons on platform tracks, with jet cleaning arrangements, are being provided. Mechanical cleaning equipment along with protective gear for the operator, is adopted for ensuring sanitation at stations.

A proper system of disposal for waste collected from trains has been prescribed wherein waste is collected in garbage bags and same is disposed off at places identified for the purpose.