

Train No. 16594 (Bangalore - Nanded) Hazur Sahib Nanded Express in the block section between Sri Satya Sai Prasanthi Nilayam and Basampalle stations of South Western Railway on 28.12.2013 is being conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) / Southern Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

In this incident, 26 passengers lost their life, 5 passengers suffered grievous injuries and 1 passenger suffered simple injuries.

(b) As per preliminary report of CRS, the fire in 3 tier AC coach of Train No. 16594 Hazur Sahib Nanded Express on 28.12.2013 was most probably caused by advertent act or by an act of negligence on the part of unidentified passenger(s) or person (s).

Condition of Government Railway Guest Houses

1844. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government Railway Guest Houses across the country are in a very dilapidated conditions; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to restore them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Train services in Bihar

1845. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in Bihar where train services are deficient; and

(b) the action being taken by Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY) : (a) and (b) Railways do not introduce trains on

state-wise basis as trains run across the state boundaries. Besides, introduction of train is an ongoing process on Indian Railways and is done keeping in view the traffic justification, operational feasibility, commercial viability, competing demands etc.

FDI in RAILWAYS

1846. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has decided to allow FDI in Railways, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when Government proposes to allow FDI in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY) : (a) No decision has been taken in this regard.

(b) Ministry of Railways has approached Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) to make suitable changes in the existing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy. No time frame can be indicated.

Railway projects in Bihar

1847. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ongoing projects in Bihar along with the status thereof; and

(b) the number of projects pending in Bihar which have already been sanctioned by Railways in the past and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY) : (a) and (b) Details of projects are maintained Railway-wise and not State-wise. However, the status of all the ongoing / pending