

Rail Neer Plant

2726. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to set up new Rail Neer Plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what are the details of location of the existing plants in the country;
- (d) whether such a plant is also proposed to be set up in the backward poverty stricken Orissa State to improve its economy; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): and (b) Yes, Sir. However there is no immediate plan for any new plant.

(c) As of now, only two plants at Mangloi, Delhi and Danapur, Bihar are operational and under stabilization.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Setting up of any such future plants in other regions depends upon feasibility and requirement.

Over-utilization of Ahmedabad-Mumbai rail line

2727. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the existing capacity of Ahmedabad-Mumbai Railway line has been over utilized;
- (b) whether his Ministry is considering augmentation of the capacity of this line by providing an additional track; and
- (c) if so, by when this project would be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI R. VELU). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Capacity augmentation between Ahmedabad and Mumbai is presently being undertaken through various Traffic Facility and Signaling Works along the route.

A feasibility study for Dedicated Freight Corridor between Mumbai and Delhi Region for catering to the expected long term increase in traffic demand is also in progress.

Incremental revenue for railways by overloading of wagons

2728. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an incremental revenue of more than Rs. 2,700 crores has materialized for Railways by carrying an extra 10 metric tonnes of freight on each wagon;

(b) whether the Commission of Railway Safety has questioned this overloading of wagons on the ground that century old bridges and ill-maintained tracks would not permit such a move; and

(c) whether the Railway has secured the required safety and technical clearance from RDSO and Commission of Railway safety before launching the overload drive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI R. VELU): (a) Railway is not carrying an extra ten metric tonnes of freight on each wagon. However, with effect from 15.05.2005, Railway enhanced the permissible carrying capacity of BOXN wagons by four tonnes for selected routes and selected commodities, as a pilot project for one year. Railway has earned an incremental revenue of approximately Rs. 3200 crores upto October 2005 on account of freight traffic in comparison to previous year. This included the incremental earning due to enhancement of permissible carrying capacity by four tonnes, figure for which is not maintained separately.

(b) and (c) Overloading beyond permissible carrying capacity is not permitted. The permissible carrying capacity however, has been enhanced in recent past. Chief Commission of Railway Safety (CCRS) has raised certain observation on recent enhancement in permissible carrying