

5. Extra vigil is kept on movement of suspicious characters in the Godowns and Yards.

Norms for providing hygienic food in trains

3062. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to set norms for providing hygienic food in trains, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that base kitchens, from where the food is supplied to the trains, are not hygienic, if so, the steps Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. It is a continuous endeavour by the Indian Railways to provide good quality hygienic food to Railway passengers. A detailed quality assurance programme has been defined in the New Catering Policy. To improve the quality of catering services in the trains, a mechanism for monitoring and supervision has been put in place by deploying railway personnel, who check quality and hygiene through regular, surprise and periodical inspections and take corrective action. In addition, regular passenger satisfaction surveys are also conducted. Catering Services Monitoring Cell with a toll free number 1800-111-321 at national level has been set up for real time redressal of complaints.

(b) No, Sir. To ensure that food supplied from base kitchens is hygienic, steps taken include (i) a transparent contract awarding, management and monitoring procedure has been laid down wherein modern and mechanized base kitchens are to be setup on the railway premises, (ii) Detailed Hygiene and Quality Parameters have been laid down in the Standard Bid Document (SBD) which define the procedures for procurement of raw materials, storage of food, preparation procedures, holding of cooked food, packaging of food, food equipments, avoidance of cross-contamination of food, kitchen structure, staff training, disposal of wastes in kitchens, personal hygiene, guidance for food handlers, in-house audit etc. (iii) The base kitchens are to be approved and supervised by the Railways and are to have ISO-22000 certification, (iv) Third Party Audit has been made a part of the Standard Bid Document (SBD) so as to strengthen the monitoring of catering services.

High Speed Rail Project

3063. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any High Speed Rail Project has been initiated by Railways;
- (b) if so, the infrastructure requirement for such a project;

- (c) the technology to be used and its suitability for the Indian terrain and its affordability;
- (d) the per cent of work done and likely date of completion of the Project; and
- (e) the details of team working on the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Ministry of Railways has initiated a joint feasibility study with the Government of Japan on Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed corridor. The study has started in December, 2013 and will take 18 months for completion.

(b) to (e) Infrastructure requirement, technology to be used, percentage of work done and details of team working are not finalized as no high speed train project is sanctioned at present.

New railway line projects in Maharashtra

3064. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

- (a) the present status of new railway line projects sanctioned during the last three years in Maharashtra along with the reasons for delay in completion thereof;
- (b) the details of financial implications assessed for these projects along with the details of financing module worked out and the funds allocated/spent thereon, so far, project-wise; and
- (c) the broad time-frame set for completion of all these projects along with the steps taken/being taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) Railway projects are not sanctioned State-wise. However, one project of New Line falling partly/fully in Maharashtra included in Budget during last three years *i.e.* Wadsa-Gadchiroli (49.5 km.) New Line project in 2011-12 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 232.4 crore. An expenditure of Rs. 0.03 crore was incurred upto March, 2013 and an outlay of Rs. 1.00 crore was provided during 2013-14. This project is being executed in equal cost sharing with Government of Maharashtra. Final Location Survey taken up. Target for completion of the work has yet not been decided.

Financial crisis faced by Railways

3065. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways are facing financial crisis in completing many projects on time, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the earnings and spendings of Railways during the last three years; and