

(c) No, Sir. However, survey for Haridwar-Kotdwar-Ramnagar new line was completed in 2011-12 and as per the survey report, the cost of construction of this 143 km long new line was assessed as ₹ 1246 crore with the rate of return of (-) 5.98% and the project could not be advanced due to its unremunerative nature.

(d) Does not arise as the project has not been sanctioned.

Allotments under Railways Catering Policy

2568. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Catering Policy circulated by the Railway Board is to be implemented by the zonal railways;

(b) whether zonal railways are competent to initiate action by violating the Policy;

(c) if so, the rule under which it can be done;

(d) if not, then how 'trays' (khomchas) were allotted to a private contractor at New Delhi railway station as at 'A' category stations such allotments are not permitted; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken against those officers who made such allotments by violating the Railways' Catering Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No 'trays' (khomchas) were allotted by Delhi Division of Northern Railway under Catering Policy, 2010 to a private contractor at New Delhi railway station. The existing trays (khomchas) were allotted to private contractor in 1981 for sale of Miscellaneous articles.

(e) As no new allotment of tray was made under Catering Policy, 2010, Hence, there is no violation of Catering Policy.

Bullet train between Hyderabad and Chennai

2569. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Railways have decided to run Bullet trains between Hyderabad and Chennai *via* Dornakal and Vijayawada;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that final report has been submitted by the consultant;

(c) if so, the recommendations made in the final report; and

(d) the action Railways have taken on this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Relaxing FDI norms in Railways

2570. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Home Affairs and the Department of Economic Affairs have expressed reservations on relaxing FDI norms in Railways;

(b) if so, objections/comments made by each of the above and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such a move and allowing China in the core sector such as Railways, creates a security threat to the country; and

(d) if so, whether any review has been done on this aspect and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways has not received any reservations from Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of Economic Affairs on relaxing FDI norms in the Railways.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Security arrangements at New Delhi railway station

2571. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Safety Audit Report of Northern Railway presented some months back indicted the officials of New Delhi railway station for lax security arrangements, and despite that, no improvement has taken place;