

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken on these reports to accord approval and for provision of funds for their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Survey Reports and cost estimates of parts of the proposed new lines, *i.e.* Junagarh-Nabarangpur, Nabarangpur-Jeypore and Jeypore-Malkangiri have been received in Railway Board.

(b) The present shelf of ongoing projects, which is worth ₹ 1.82 lakh crore and the limited availability of resources, prohibit Railways from taking up new projects at present.

Condition of services offered in Ajmer Shatabdi

3339. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ajmer Shatabdi carries comparatively older coaches with poor hygiene, maintenance, service and sub-standard food, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether the Ministry would bring Ajmer Shatabdi at par to the standards of Chandigarh Shatabdi, Bhopal Shatabdi and Ahmedabad-Mumbai Shatabdi, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. It is continuous endeavour of Indian Railways to provide good quality hygienic food to the travelling passengers. If any deficiency in catering services, especially quality of food is found, strict action including imposition of heavy fine is taken.

(b) New Delhi-Ajmer Shatabdi Express is being run with new design Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches. These coaches are of same standards of hygiene, maintenance and service as in New Delhi-Chandigarh, New Delhi-Bhopal and Ahmedabad-Mumbai Shatabdi Express trains.

New train from Ujjain to Varanasi

3340. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to run a new train from Ujjain to Varanasi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to introduce a direct daily train between Ujjain and Varanasi for the benefit of pilgrims?