

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Indian Railways proposes to harness solar energy by utilising roof top space of New Delhi railway station including through the PPP mode for which modalities are being worked out.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Technical study for provision of 1 Mega Watt solar plant has not been conducted by the Railways. However, Railways has planned to install 500 Kilo Watt solar plant at New Delhi Railway station under railways funding, procurement process for which has been initiated.

Vacancies in safety category

3363. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in the posts of supervisors and staff in the safety category;

(b) the steps being taken by Railways to fill up the vacancies and the progress thereof; and

(c) the progress of implementation of safety measures like ACDs, VCDs, BPACs and TPWDs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) As on 01.04.2014, there are 129152 vacancies in safety categories, including the posts of supervisors and staff, in Zonal Railways.

(b) During the Financial Year 2013-14, total 73005 persons/panels were provided to the Zonal Railways. Further, new indents for 81000 posts have been placed on the Recruitment Agencies.

(c) Progress of implementation of safety measures like ACDs, VCDs, BPACs and TPWDs is as under:

- (i) Anti-Collision Device (ACD): Anti-Collision Device has been provided on North-east Frontier Railway covering 1736 Kilometers. However, due to inherent design limitations, further development of the system has not been considered on other Zones.
- (ii) Vigilance Control Device (VCD): Vigilance Control Device has been provided in almost all diesel and electric locomotives.

- (iii) Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC): Block Proving Axle Counters have been provided at about 4000 Block Sections.
- (iv) Train Protection Warning System (TPWS): Two pilot projects of Train Protection Warning System have been implemented, one between Chennai Central and Gummidipundi (50 Route Kms) on suburban section of Southern Railway and the second on the non-suburban Delhi - Agra Section (200 Route Kms) of Northern/North Central Railway, where service trials are in progress. TPWS is also under commissioning on Kolkata Metro, between Dumdum and Kavi Subhash Marg stations (25 Route Kms).

Recommendation of expert committee for modernisation of Indian Railways

3364. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any accounting reforms have been initiated in accordance with the recommendations of the Expert Committee for Modernisation of Indian Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have initiated accounting reforms, which envisage transition from the existing cash based accounting system to accrual based accounting system in conformity with the accounting standards stipulated by Government Accounting Standard Advisory Board (GASAB). It also involves accounting separation between infrastructure and operational activities, train and route costing analysis as per recommendation of the Expert Group for Modernization of Indian Railways.

- (c) Does not arise.

Expert committee to establish cause of rail failures

3365. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a national level Expert Committee has been set up to establish the cause of rail failures in accordance with the recommendations of the High Level Safety Review Committee; and
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor?