

Liberalized wagon investment scheme

3368. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Liberalized Wagon Investment Scheme (LWIS) by Government allows investment by end users viz., producers, manufacturers and consumers of goods in Special Purpose Wagons (SPW) and High Capacity Wagons (HCW);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the performance from 2008 onwards; and

(c) how many private and public sector companies have utilised the said LWIS scheme and the complete details of the utilisation under LWIS?

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

(b) Under Liberalized Wagon Investment Scheme (LWIS), approval has been given for procurement of 54 rakes of Special Purpose Wagons by Ministry of Railways since 2008. Out of these, 20 rakes have already been procured by customers and are running on Indian Railways. Remaining rakes are likely to be procured by the customers in near future.

(c) Approval for procurement of rakes under the said scheme has been given to 10 Private Companies and 3 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). So far, 15 and 5 rakes have been procured by Private Companies and Public Sector Undertakings respectively and are being run under LWIS on Indian Railways.

Rail magazine for passengers

3369. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring in an all-colour rail magazine for safe and enjoyable travel for free use of passengers in elite trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action plan of Government to extend this facility to other long distance trains; and

(d) the details of advisories that are proposed to be included in such magazines on safety and security of railway passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) An on-board magazine called 'Rail Bandhu' was introduced in

May 2011. This all-colour magazine is circulated free of cost to passengers travelling by Rajdhani/Shatabdi and AC Class of Durgam Express for on-board reading.

(c) In addition to the above, extension of the magazine to Premium Specials has been planned.

(d) The magazine consists of reading material relating to travel and tourism. The content of the magazine also covers initiatives taken by Indian Railways which includes passenger friendly measures as well as those relating to safety and security.

Supply of coal to power plants

†3370. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Minister for Power had made a request to the Minister of Railways for transportation/supply of coal to power plants on time;

(b) whether Railways have assured of speeding up the projects of coal transportation in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha;

(c) if so, the names of important coal transportation projects along with the details thereof and the deadline set for their completion;

(d) whether formalities relating to environmental clearance and land acquisition for the abovesaid projects have not yet been completed; and

(e) by when all these projects would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No formal reference has been received from Union Minister for Power in this regard.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details of projects and the deadlines set for completion of three important coal transportation projects are as under:

| Name of Project | Length | State/ Railway | Date of completion of the Project |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tori-Shivpur | 44 km | Jharkhand/ East Central | July 2017 |
| Shivpur-Kathautia Railway Line | 53 km | Jharkhand/ East Central | Not yet decided. |

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.