

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The guidelines of various schemes including Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, Extension Reforms Scheme, National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil-Palm and National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture stipulate that States and other Implementing Agencies are required to incur at least 30% expenditure on women farmers. 'Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana' (MKSP), which is a sub-component of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), has special budgetary provisions to meet the specific needs of women farmers and help them achieve socio economic and technical empowerment.

**Delhi-Dibrugarh Rajdhani train accident**

\*459. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Delhi-Dibrugarh Rajdhani train accident that took place in the last week of June, 2014;
- (b) whether it is mandatory that every Rajdhani train is preceded by a pilot engine;
- (c) if so, whether it is a fact that there was no pilot engine before Delhi-Dibrugarh Rajdhani train; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) On 25.06.2014 at 02.12 hours, while the Train No.12236 Dn New Delhi - Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express was running between Chhapra Kacheri and Goldenganj stations on Chhapra-Sonepur Section of Sonepur Division of East Central Railway, its locomotive alongwith 12 coaches next to train engine derailed, out of which 5 coaches capsized.

(b) No, Sir. Indian Railways do not operate pilot engines ahead of important trains including Rajdhani Express services under normal situations. However, these are required to be run, as and when advisories regarding security threats, are received by the Railways, from the State Authorities/Government Railway Police, to run the same on sectors and for durations, indicated therein.

(c) and (d) Pilot Engine/Goods train was not run before 12236 New Delhi-Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express on 25.06.2014 between Chhapra-Hajipur section, as there was no

security threat advisory for this train for this section. Police advisory was received for the period 24.06.2014 to 25.06.2014 for the Train No.12435 Up Rajdhani Express between Hajipur and Chhapra and Train No.12236 Dn Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express between Hajipur and Muzzafarpur. A goods train was run ahead of Train No.12435 Up Rajdhani Express between Hajipur-Chhapra section as per advisory.

### **High Speed Rail Corporation**

\*460. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to set up a High Speed Rail Corporation (HSRC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its terms of reference; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to develop High Speed Rail Corridors in the country to run passenger trains at high speed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. High Speed Rail Corporation of India Ltd. (HSRC) has been incorporated as a fully-owned subsidiary of Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL), a Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE) of Ministry of Railways.

The present composition of Board of Directors of HSRC is - Chairman and three Directors. It has started functioning. The objectives of HSRC include conducting pre-feasibility studies, preparation of detailed project report (DPR) for corridor as decided by Government, preparation of technical parameters for High Speed Rail (HSR) system, preparation of model concession agreement, developing various financing models and PPP options, discussions with stake holders including funding agencies, obtaining various Government approvals etc. for development and implementation of HSR corridors.

(c) Skills of staff and officers will be developed at appropriate Institutes in India and abroad, through training programmes. Studies will be conducted on Diamond Quadrilateral Network of High Speed Rail connecting four major metro and growth centres of the country *i.e.* New Delhi - Mumbai - Chennai - Kolkata - New Delhi. Mumbai-Ahmedabad sector, where a number of studies has been done, has been identified for further development for Introduction of High Speed Trains. In this regard, a provision of ₹100 crores has been made in the Railway Budget 2014-15 for High Speed Project to RVNL/High Speed Rail Corporation of India Ltd. (HSRC).

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