

1	2
South East Central	172
South Western	210
Western	400
West Central	371
TOTAL	6482

Suburban railway service in Kerala

1947. SHRI K.N BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received a proposal to start Suburban Railway service in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways has received a letter from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala to sanction Rapid Rail Transit System in Kerala between Thiruvananthapuram and Chengannur by use of the existing Broad Gauge double line between these stations. As per the Detailed Project Report submitted by Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd. (MRVC), employed by Government of Kerala, the proposed work, costing about ₹ 3300 crore, will facilitate the introduction of train services to cater the suburban passengers between Thiruvananthapuram and Chengannur.

Electrification of railway section

1948. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes electrification of Allahabad-Varanasi-Chhapra railway section;

(b) if so, the details thereof and details of survey work undertaken so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Electrification of Chhapra- Ballia- Ghazipur- Varanasi- Allahabad section (330 Route Kilometres) has been included in Railway Budget 2014-15 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 299.52 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

Katra-Udhampur railway line

1949. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly constructed Katra Railway station in Jammu and Kashmir is being developed as model Solar Energy Station to meet energy requirement of the station and if so, whether Ministry proposes to develop more such stations in the country;

(b) whether the train between Katra to Udhampur has been named Shri Shakti Express;

(c) whether Ministry proposes to extend Katra-Udhampur rail line to Banihal and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total length of this newly constructed line and the approximate cost of construction; and

(e) the present composition of the train running between Katra to Udhampur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Harnessing of solar energy at about 200 Railway stations including Katra Railway station has been planned.

(b) Train Number 22461/22462 New Delhi, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra AC Express has been named as Shri Shakti Express.

(c) Yes, Sir. Katra-Banihal rail link has been taken up as a part of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line project.

(d) The length of Udhampur-Katra rail link is 25 km, and the latest sanctioned cost of this rail link is ₹ 927.61 crore.

(e) Three DEMU services are running with composition of 8 car and a train between New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra is of 18 coaches.