

the quality and hygiene of catering services, Third Party Audit of catering services are to be conducted at periodic intervals by independent and reputed auditing agencies accredited by NABCB (National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies) as empanelled by the zonal railways. The parameters for audit include all aspects of catering services like personal hygiene, infrastructure facilities, cleaning and sanitation, food safety, storage facilities, implementation of regulatory, statutory and safety regulations, quality of presentation etc.

- (iv) Every year new trains are introduced taking into consideration demands in various sectors of the country within the resources available. The demand analysis is based on waiting lists in various sectors of the country, representation made by public representatives, etc. Accordingly, new trains including Special trains, Premium trains, Jansadharan express, Ladies Special suburban services, etc. are introduced. New coaches such as more and more LHB coaches, double decker coaches, etc., are also inducted into the system.

Improvement of freight market share

1518. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any pilot projects are being operated to increase freight, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Roll on/Roll off scheme is being implemented, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether any other inventive steps have been taken for improvement of freight market share, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways has approved a pilot project on trial basis for running of RoadRailer train and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with a private firm to increase freight earnings.

(b) Yes, Sir. Presently, transportation of trucks by Railway wagons is undertaken under the nomenclature 'Roll-on-Roll-off' (Ro-Ro) scheme on the network of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.

(c) To improve freight share of Railways, the following inventive steps have been taken by Indian Railways:

- (1) Procurement of wagons by private investors through Public Private Partnership mode under the following schemes:
 - (i) Liberalized Wagon Investment Scheme.
 - (ii) Wagon Leasing Scheme.
 - (iii) Special Freight Train Operators Scheme.
 - (iv) Automobile Freight Train Operators Scheme.
 - (v) Special Parcel Train Operator Scheme.
- (2) Private investment for development of Private Freight Terminals through Public Private Partnership mode.
- (3) Development of Eastern and Western dedicated freight corridors.
- (4) Automatic Freight Rebate for traffic loaded in inter-zonal traditional empty flow direction.

Sectors identified for hundred per cent FDI

1519. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has identified sectors for 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Railways;
- (b) if so, how many sectors have been identified, the details thereof; and
- (c) the revenue generated from these sectors in the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has permitted 100 percent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in construction, operation and maintenance of:

- (i) Suburban corridors through Public Private Partnership (PPP).
- (ii) High speed train projects.
- (iii) Dedicated freight lines.
- (iv) Rolling stock including trains sets and locomotive/coaches manufacturing and maintenance facilities.
- (v) Railway electrification.
- (vi) Signaling system.