

(b) the action Government has taken or proposes to take on such cases to break the nexus of railway employees, touts and RPF personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Some instances of misuse of reservation system by unscrupulous elements with or without connivance of railway staff are reported in media especially during peak rush periods/festival seasons. Such instances are duly investigated and remedial action is taken, wherever required. Moreover, with a view to reducing chances of such misuse of reservation system, various steps are taken, some of which are as under:

- Regular and surprise checks are conducted in and around reservation offices as well as in trains independently as well as jointly by Commercial, Security and Vigilance Departments.
- Close Circuit Televisions have been installed at important reservation offices to monitor the activities at reservation counters.
- A close watch is kept on the working of reservation staff and strict disciplinary action is taken against the delinquent staff indulging in malpractices in reservation offices.
- For undertaking journey in reserved classes, the condition of carrying one of the prescribed proof of identity (in original) by any one of the passengers has been mandatory. In case of Tatkal ticket, the same original proof of identity as indicated on the ticket is required to be carried.
- With a view to bridging the gap between demand and supply, particularly during peak rush periods, special trains are run and load of existing trains is augmented, subject to operational feasibility.

Laying of second railway line between Banspani and Jakhpura

2289. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for slow progress of laying of the second railway line between Banspani and Jakhpura;

(b) how much of the slowing down is due to closure of iron ore mines as a result of Supreme Court directives and how much due to other factors; and

(c) the remedial measures taken or contemplated to expedite the progress of construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Banspani-Jakhpura (180 Km) doubling has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹942 crores. An expenditure of ₹161 crores has been incurred upto March, 2014 and an outlay of ₹198 crores has been provided in the current year. Track linking in 50 Km length has been completed. The reasons for slow progress include delay in acquisition of land by State Government, forestry clearance, restrictions on extraction of earth and quarry products etc. The progress of the project is not related to status of iron ore mines.

(c) Project officials are in regular touch with the State Government officials and regular meetings are conducted with them for sorting out issues on day to day basis to expedite the progress of works.

Financial position of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.

2290. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the financial position of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.;
- (b) the profits gained and losses incurred by Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. in the last five years;
- (c) whether any survey to construct a parallel railway line on Konkan Railway route has been made if so, how many kilometers are covered by any such survey; and
- (d) the cost incurred on the survey and estimated cost of laying second rail line on this route, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) is a Schedule - A Central Public Sector Enterprise under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways with paid up Equity Share Capital of ₹806 Cr.

Government in 2008 have carried out the financial restructuring of Konkan Railway. Loan amounting to ₹4079 crores provided by Ministry of Railways to Konkan Railway has been converted into Non-Cumulative preferential shares, redeemable after 15 /20 years.

The outstanding Bonds liability of KRCL as on 31st March 2014 is ₹1266 Cr. The Corporation has earned an operating Margin of ₹218 Cr. during 2013-14 as compared to