

**World class railway stations**

2295. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of establishing world class railway stations in the country, Zone-wise;
- (b) the number of stations upgraded to world-class under East Coast Railway Zone; and
- (c) whether some special facilities have been provided for women and girls at such stations to control any kind of harassment especially during intervening nights, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) It was announced in Railway Budget 2014-15, to develop at least 10 major stations of Metro Cities and important junctions to international standards. 5 stations viz., Habibganj (West Central Railway), Chandigarh(Northern Railway), Bijwasan (Northern Railway), Shivaji Nagar (Pune, Central Railway) and Anand Vihar (Northern Railway) were initially entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) for which Draft Master Plans and Feasibility Reports have been prepared and are under statutory approvals. In case of Habibganj, for which requisite clearances have been obtained, Request For Qualification (RFQ) for the station redevelopment contract has been invited. Surat station (Western Railway) has also been entrusted to IRSDC for redevelopment for which consultancy tenders have been opened on 8.12.2014. Mangalore and Ernakulam stations (both Southern Railway) are also identified for redevelopment for which preliminary discussions have been held. Gandhinagar station has also been taken up by Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for development and consultants have been appointed for feasibility studies. 2 stations, viz. Baiyyappanahalli (Bengaluru) on South Western Railway and Bhubaneswar/ New Bhubaneswar on East Coast Railway are identified for undertaking prefeasibility studies by the Chinese Railways under a Memorandum Of Understanding(MOU) dated 18.9.2014. No station has been redeveloped to international standards in East Coast Railway so far.

(c) No such stations have been developed so far. However, separate waiting room for ladies is prescribed for 'A1' and 'A' category stations as a Desirable Amenity. Maintenance of peace and order in station premises and trains is the statutory responsibility of States

which is being discharged by them through the Government Railway Police (GRP). Besides sharing 50% of the cost on GRPs with respective States, Railways supplement efforts of States through the Railway Protection Force (RPF) to ensure security at railway stations. Measures initiated to ensure security at major stations by RPF including security of women and girls include escorting of ladies' compartments of suburban trains during peak hours, public awareness programmes with regard to security of women passengers, special squads including lady RPF Sub-Inspectors and Constables at Divisional Level for providing assistance to women passengers. To improve representation of women in the force, 10% of all posts advertised in the rank of Constable and SI are earmarked to be filled by women. 12 Manila Vahinis have been sanctioned to strengthen women security in metropolitan cities, especially in suburban sections. Creation of 4192 more posts, to be filled from women candidates, has been announced in Budget 2014-15 and proposal has been forwarded to Ministry of Finance for approval.

#### **Dynamic fare system**

2296. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether dynamic fare in certain trains have been introduced by Railways;
- (b) if so, the details of trains and slabs of dynamic fare structure introduced; and
- (c) the response of the public to this dynamic fare structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The concept of premium train services on dynamic fare over and above the regular train services has been introduced *w.e.f* 24.12.2013. The fare of Premium special trains on dynamic pricing increases depending upon the demand and availability of accommodation. The base fare of these trains is the normal adult fare applicable for the trains plus the tatkal charges and the fare can increase based on demand intensity subject to a prescribed maximum limit. The dynamic fare of the premium trains increases proportionate to the increase in Actual Demand Intensity as compared to the Normal Demand Intensity.

Upto 27.11.2014, 197 premium trains have been introduced. The total additional earnings on account of dynamic fare upto 27.11.14 after introduction of Premium trains have been ₹ 49.71 crores. Apart from this additional earnings, the response received from passengers has been encouraging going by the occupancy levels of these trains.