

(a) whether it is a fact that the pantry car staff overcharge for food and drinking stuff provided to the sleeper class passengers in trains, especially in North East Frontier (NF) and North Eastern (NE) Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is considering to provide receipt for sale of food stuff in trains, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Food in trains is sold as per rates notified by the Railways. On Northeast Frontier (NF) and North Eastern (NE) Railway, about 90 cases of complaints of overcharging have been reported during the last one year (*i.e.* 01.12.2013 to 30.11.2014). Action has been taken on the licensees including imposition of fines.

(c) Instructions exist with the zonal railways to ensure issue of receipt (electronic/ printed) for sale of food to the passengers of Mail/Express trains. Monitoring is done through surprise and periodical inspections conducted by zonal railways.

Construction of another railway line from Saharanpur to Dehradun

†2321. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers that the frequency of trains to Dehradun has increased now;

(b) whether Government is also aware that the operation of trains to Dehradun is still being done in an old fashioned way;

(c) if so, whether Railways consider it necessary to construct another railway line from Saharanpur to Dehradun in the present context; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in construction of another railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) In the last few years, train connectivity to Dehradun has increased and at present, 19 pairs of train services, including prestigious services like Shatabdi Express, AC Express and Jan Shatabdi Express etc., serve Dehradun station and connect Dehradun, *inter-alia*, with important stations like Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Varanasi, Mumbai etc.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Huge throwforward of ongoing projects and limited overall availability of resource precludes railway from taking up new projects.

Joint venture by railways and rites for development of solar and wind energy

2322. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are contemplating on the development of use of solar and wind energy to reduce the cost of electricity, fuel and diesel, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether RITES and Railways are floating a joint venture project in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways is harnessing solar and wind energy at competitive rates and have installed solar and wind mill plants of about 20 Mega Watt (MW) capacity. Further, works of about 10 MW of solar plants at Railway stations, office buildings and level crossing (LC) gates and 157.5 MW of wind mill plants have also been planned.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Railway Energy Management Company (REMC), a Joint Venture (JV) of Ministry of Railways and RITES in the equity partnership of 49% and 51% respectively, has been incorporated mainly for harnessing green energy for Railways.

Wagon factory at Kantabanji

2323. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there exists 700 acres of unutilized land of Railways in Kantabanji in Bolangir district of Odisha;

(b) whether Government has approved construction of a wagon factory in Kantabanji, if so, the progress and other details thereof;

(c) whether any area of the land will remain unutilized even after such construction, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what does Government propose to utilize the remaining land for, the details thereof ?