

(b) In terms of population, the Rail network density of Odisha is 6 route km per lakh of population against the all India average of 5.44. In terms of area, Odisha has 1.62 route km per 100 sq. km of area against the all India average of 2.

(c) Kesinga and Bhawanipatna are already connected by rail *via* Lanjigarh Road.

New broad gauge line in Chhattisgarh

†601. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new broad gauge rail line is being laid in the Mandir-Hasaud - Naya Raipur-Kendri route in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether the South-Eastern Central Railway requires 150 hectares of land, free of cost from the State for the work and the Chhattisgarh Government is ready to give 80 hectares of land for converting the narrow gauge rail line into the broad gauge from Raipur to Kendri; and

(c) if so, whether the Railway Board will accord sanction for this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The work for new Broad Gauge line between Mandir-Hasaud- Naya Raipur (20 Km) and Raipur (Kendri) - Dhamtari has already been sanctioned in 2010-11 as Material Modification to Raipur-Titlagarh Doubling project. This work requires 111 hectares of land, which the State Govt. of Chhattisgarh has agreed to provide on lease to Railways. Out of this, 54 hectares of land has already been handed over to the Railways.

Train from Ambikapur to New Delhi

602. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for starting a train from Ambikapur to New Delhi since long; and

(b) if so, by when the train will be started for convenience of the people of northern Chhattisgarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Representations from public representatives regarding

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

introduction of train services from Ambikapur to Delhi have been received. They have been examined but not found feasible for implementation due to operational and resource constraints, at present.

Inadequacy of Ambulances

†603. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inadequacy of ambulances is being felt in view of the number of train passengers in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any step to increase their number; and

(c) if so, the details of those steps and by when it would be taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) No, Sir. The services of Centralized Accident Trauma Services (CATS) Ambulances and Ambulances of Delhi Government Hospitals are utilized for transportation of seriously ill / injured train passengers in Delhi. In addition, the ambulances of Railway Hospitals and Dispensaries are utilized to transport passengers in emergencies.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Tapping the full potential of trains by railways

†604. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the full potential of trains is not being tapped by Railways;

(b) if so, whether Railways are now considering to tap the full potential of trains; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) to (c) The overall occupancy in all classes and all categories of reserved trains during the period 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 (upto January) has been more than 100%.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.