

Procurement in railways

247. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Shri E. Sreedharan in his latest report has stated that if procurement is decentralized, Railways could save ₹ 10,000 crore annually;
- (b) if so, the action Government proposes to take on the said report;
- (c) whether there is rampant corruption in procurement of items in Railways;
- (d) if so, the measures taken to eradicate corruption in railway procurements; and
- (e) the procurement policy of Government of India and the reasons for not following the Government's procurement policy by Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Shri E. Sreedharan after scrutinizing current practices and procedures followed at the Board concludes that improving and decentralizing the system with empowerment and accountability shall effect annual economy to the tune of Rupees five thousand crore in stores procurement and equal amount in works contracts.

(b) The Final Report of the Committee has been submitted on 11.03.2015. A Sub-Committee has been set up to evaluate the recommendations and suggest a framework for implementation sequence duly taking into account the practical aspects.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise. However, Railway has already implemented e-procurement system for its procurement activities ensuring total transparency at all the stages. Vigilance Organisation also exists at the levels of Zonal Railway/Production Unit as well as Railway Board, to take necessary measures in this regard, as and when required.

(e) The procurement policy of the Government of India is followed by Railways.

Illegal encroachment of railway land

248. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway land measuring about 1000 hectares is under illegal encroachment in various parts of the country including Delhi, if so, the details of such land under encroachment in Delhi;

(b) whether such encroachments have been causing serious operational and other problems, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Railways thereto;