

Pollachi-Palakkad section (58 km) has also been completed. However, passenger trains can be introduced after statutory inspection and authorization by the Commissioner of Railway Safety.

Railways' partnership with Kendriya Vidyalayas

† 1393. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways propose to have a partnership with Kendriya Vidyalayas for starting schools on its land throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the targets and objectives of such partnership; and
- (c) by when it is likely to take effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Railways have signed a Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) in February, 2010 with Ministry of Human Resource Development(HRD) for development of educational facilities for wards of railway employees as well as of children living in the vicinity of railway habitations. This MOU, *inter-alia*, envisages setting up of 50 Civil Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas by Ministry of HRD on the land to be provided by Railways during 11th and 12th Plan periods. Pursuant thereto, Ministry of HRD has sanctioned twelve new Kendriya Vidyalayas namely at Carriage Repair Workshop Harnaut (Bihar), Cast Wheel Plant, Bela (Bihar), Railway Campus, Nanded (Maharashtra), Railway Campus, Rangiya (Assam), Freeland Ganj Railway Colony, Dahod (Gujarat), Krishnarajapuram Diesel Loco Shed Colony, Bangalore (Karnataka), Shakurbasti, West Punjabi Bagh(Delhi), Bandel Railway Colony, Hooghly (West Bengal), Angul (Odisha), Golden Rock, Tiruchirapally (Tamil Nadu), Rail Coach Factory, Raebareilly (Uttar Pradesh) and Jhajha, Jamui (Bihar).

Free travel passes to Railway employees and officers

†1394. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways provide free travel passes to its employees and officers along with their families, every year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such passes provided to each employee and officer;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.