

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;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it has been noted that as per the reports of print media, due to some technical problem, these travel passes are being misused; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the details of the action taken by Railways to probe their misuse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Railway officials are given privilege passes as part of their service conditions which are admissible for self, family, dependent relatives and adopted child. Gazetted railway officers are given six (06) sets of privilege passes in a year whereas non-gazetted railway employees are given one (01) set of privilege pass upto the end of 5th year of railway service in a year and thereafter three (03) sets in a year.

(c) and (d) No such instance of misuse of Railway Pass due to some technical fault has been reported in the recent past. However, checks are conducted from time to time to curb the instances of misuse of railway passes. Moreover, for Railway employees, in case the misuse of Railway pass is established, a provision has been made for deterrent punishment in the form of dismissal or removal from service or reduction to a lower post depending upon seriousness of the offence.

#### **Opposition of Bibek Debroy Committee recommendations**

1395. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of Bibek Debroy Committee on large-scale reform and restructuring of Railways is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether the report, *inter-alia*, calls for separation of the Railway Board and the Ministry;

(c) whether the confederation of railway workmen unions have come out strongly against the Committee recommendations; and

(d) how Government plans to push through the Debroy Committee reform measures in the face of *status-quo* its attitude of thirteen lakh strong workforce bent upon rejecting the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.