

[9 July, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

accident of 2620 Up Matsyagandha Express on 16.06.2004, has concluded in his preliminary inquiry report that accident was caused due to failure of east side slope of Ambivali cutting resulting in falling of boulder and soil, causing obstruction on track.

(c) and (d) Konkan Railway Corporation have sanctioned installation of inclinometers at a cost of Rs. 1.53 crores. Steps have also been taken now by Konkan Railway Corporation to sanction provision of safety nets on cuttings where the height is more than 5 metres. Konkan Railway have also taken a number of further steps like piloting of mail/express trains between 7.00 pm to 7.00 am, reducing the speed in vulnerable sections, monsoon patrolling at vulnerable locations, to enhance safety of train operations.

Late running of Kaifiat Express

†141. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the "Kaifiat Express" running between Delhi and Azamgarh often reaches its destination late;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the passengers are facing a lot of inconvenience in getting eatables in the absence of a pantry car in this train; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps being taken to ensure timely running of this train as well as to attach a pantry car?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The Punctuality of 4025/4026 Delhi-Azamgarh Kaifiat Express has been affected due to equipment failures and other reasons which are beyond the control of Railways like bad weather, power grid failures, Alarm chain pulling, miscreant activities and cattle run over etc.

(b) and (c) Kaifiat Express does not qualify for provision of Pantry car as per extant policy. However, instructions exist to make available catering/vending facilities from static units enroute. Efforts are being made to control the equipment failures and other factors which are within the control of the Railways to improve its punctuality.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.