

- (d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (e) if not, whether Government has done any exercise in this regard, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) "Rail Neer" is the brand name of the Packaged Drinking Water (PDW) manufactured by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC). The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is presently investigating a matter concerning supply of other than the mandated Rail Neer brand of PDW to passengers of Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto trains etc., in case number RC-32(A)/2015-DLI registered by it in October, 2015 against Railways' catering licensees and officials. The two railway officials named as accused in the above mentioned CBI case have been placed under suspension.

(c) to (e) IRCTC's average cost of one litre bottle of "Rail Neer" is ₹ 9.60 and its transfer price for supplies made in locations within 75 kms. Of the manufacturing plant is ₹ 10.00 and beyond that distance is ₹10.50.

#### **Insufficient platform length at Godavari railway station**

1567. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways are aware that passengers are forced to jump out to get down from the train and climb to get into the train due to insufficient platform length at Godavari railway station in Rajahmundry;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not altering the platform despite knowledge of the problem; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by Railways to solve the problem and to extend the length of the platform?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) At Godavari railway station, the length of platform no.1 is 610 meters which can accommodate 26 coaches. Hence there is no inconvenience to passengers for entrain and detrain, as the platform length is sufficient. The length of platform no.2 is 330 meters with insufficient length due to sand hump point no. 5A and 5B and Road Under Bridge no. 249 'A', which is 50 meters ahead followed by 3rd Godavari Bridge (on the river Godavari) towards Vijayawada end. On Vishakhapatnam end Bridge no. 250 Road Over Bridge is at end of platform. Hence, the extension of length of Platform

no. 2 is not feasible. At present only few passenger trains are being dealt at this platform for which the present length is found sufficient.

(b) There is no inconvenience to the passengers to get down from the train on platform no.1 since, the longest stopping train length is 446 meters, and the same are being dealt on platform no.1 only. As explained above, the extension of platform no. 2 is not feasible.

(c) There is no need to extend the platform no.1 since sufficient length is available and extension of platform no.2 is not feasible due to reasons as explained in (a) above.

#### **Demand and supply of railway rakes and coaches**

†1568. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken in the country to fulfil the required demand of railway passenger rakes and coaches for trains at present and status thereof; and

(b) whether coaches of trains are still in operation even after expiration of their term and if so, the number thereof and measures taken for their replacement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The following measures have been taken to fulfil the demand of coaches:

1. Setting up of DMU Coach Factory at Haldia. The factory has been commissioned.
2. Setting up of Rail Coach Factory at RCF/RBL. The factory has been commissioned.
3. Besides above, projects for setting up of Rail Coach Factories have been sanctioned at Palakkad, Kanchrapara and Kolar.
4. Augmentation of existing production capacities of ICF/Chennai and RCF/Kapurthala.

(b) No, Sir. Coaches are withdrawn from passenger service after completion of their service life.

#### **Online satellite images of trains**

1569. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have joined hands with ISRO to get online satellite images for improving safety and enhancing efficiency, if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.