

(c) Safai Karamcharis are regularly educated as a part of both modular training programme and on-job training.

(d) Rag picking from railway tracks outside station area is being done on periodic manner. Contracts for mechanized cleaning, rag picking and garbage disposal are awarded by Zonal Railways for ensuring proper cleanliness at station. In such contracts, conditions exist for use of prescribed protective gears and devices by persons involved in the cleaning of tracks and platforms. Besides use of handheld devices, high pressure jet machines, electrical scrubbers, vacuum cleaners are used in cleaning coach toilets of mail/express as well as passenger trains maintained in around 123 coaching depots on zonal Railways.

#### **Fund to finance key railway projects**

2373. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to redevelop 400 stations through open bids called the 'Swiss Challenger' method, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways are also considering to create a US \$ 30 billion fund with the World Bank to finance key railway projects and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) It has been planned to offer 'A-1' and 'A' category stations (about 400 stations) on Indian Railways for redevelopment on 'as is where is' basis, by inviting open bids from interested parties with their designs and business ideas duly providing for amenities and other requirements of the Railways. The entire cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. Guidelines in this regard have been issued to the Zonal Railways.

(b) The World Bank has been approached to explore the possibility of creating a Railway infrastructure development fund. The World Bank has taken up a detailed scoping and options study for creating such a fund.

#### **New railway projects in Telangana and Odisha**

2374. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state when Railways will consider to sanction eleven new projects, namely - Bhadrachalam Road (Andhra Pradesh) -Malkangiri-Jeypore-Junagarh-Lanjigarh Road-Talcher-Bimlagarh, Bargarh-Nuapada *via* Padmapur (120 Kms), Talcher-Gopalpur

(245 Kms), Puri-Konark (35 Kms), Rupsa-Bangriposi to Gorumahisani (35 Kms), Badampahar to Keonjhar (70 Kms), Berhampur-Phulbani (169 Kms), Khurda Road-Raj Athgarh bypassing Bhubaneswar (59 Kms), Jeypore-Nabarangpur, Rayagada-Gopalpur *via* Gunupur-Bhismagiri and Digapahandi and Gunupur-Therubali-Rayagada (79 Kms)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Junagarh-Lanjigarh Road new line has already been completed and commissioned. Talcher-Bimlagarh New Line project has already been sanctioned and the work taken up.

The Surveys for Bhadrachalam Road-Malkangiri-Jeypore-Junagarh (390 Km.), Lanjigarh Road-Phulbani-Talcher (230 Km.), Bargarh Road-Nawapara Road-*via*-Padmapur (136 Km.) New Line Projects have been taken up.

Status of remaining surveys/proposals are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Survey/ Proposal	Present Status
1.	Talcher-Gopalpur (293 km.)	Survey was completed in 2001-02 and the cost of the project was assessed as ₹ 863 crore.
2.	Puri-Konark (32.6 km.)	Updating survey has been completed in 2015 and the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 254.41 crore.
3.	Rupsa-Bangriposi to Gorumahisani (41.75 km.)	Survey has been completed for a new line between Bangriposi and Gorumahisani and the cost of the project has been assessed ₹ 521.64 crore.
4.	Badampahar-Keonjhar (80 km.)	Survey completed in 2011-12 and the cost of the project was assessed as ₹ 619 crore.

Sl. No.	Name of Survey/ Proposal	Present Status
5.	Berhampur-Phulbani (169 km.)	Survey from Sambalpur-Phulbani-Berhampur (240 Km.) has been completed and the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 2957.44 crore.
6.	Khurda Road-Rajathgarh bypassing Bhubaneswar (82 km.)	Survey has been completed and the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 643.82 crore.
7.	Jeypore-Nabarangpur (38 km.)	Survey for Jeypore-Nabarangpur new line was completed in 2012-13 and the cost assessed as ₹ 466.43 crore (revised).
8.	Rayagada-Gopalpur via Gunupur, Bhismagiri and Digapahadi (223 km.)	Survey was completed in 2011-12 and the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹1649 crore.
9.	Gunupur-Therubali-Rayagada (79 km.)	Updating survey for extension of Naupada-Gunupur line upto Theruvali (79km.) was completed in 2013-14 and the cost of project has been assessed as ₹ 435 crore. However, a Broad Gauge railway line already exists between Theruvali and Rayagada.

All the above projects could not be taken up due to Railways' huge throwforward of ongoing projects, limited availability of funds for new lines and other competing priorities.