

of ticketing agents like Jan Sadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks (JTBS), Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA), Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendre (YTSK) etc. Following steps have been taken by Railways to improve freight performance:

- (i) Increasing the axle load for carrying additional traffic per wagon. Length of freight trains has also been increased to carry more traffic per train.
- (ii) Use of extensive computerization in freight operations to improve monitoring and improve utilization of assets.
- (iii) Deployment of higher capacity locomotives and higher capacity wagons.
- (iv) Improvement in maintenance practices of wagons and locomotives resulting in increased availability of rolling stock for traffic use.
- (v) Improvement of track and signaling to carry the higher volume of traffic.
- (vi) With a view to reduce empty running of rakes, Automatic Freight Rebate Scheme for traffic loaded in Traditional Empty Flow Directions has been introduced with effect from 25.06.2015, wherein rakes loaded in the notified empty flow directions are charged at concessional rates to attract traffic.

Seizure of passenger train by farmers of Chitradurga, Karnataka

1081. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers from Chitradurga, Karnataka, recently seized five-coach passenger train after a local court ordered the confiscation for the railway department's failure to compensate the farmers, whose land was acquired by Railways; and

(b) if so, the reasons for unreasonable 25 years' delay in the payment of compensation, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Attachment Warrants were issued by the Hon'ble Civil Court at Chitradurga and subsequent seizure of train has been got re-called on the same day.

The case pertained to land acquired for Chitradurga-Rayadurga new broad gauge line project during 1985-1991. As land acquisition was done by State Government, Land Acquisition Officer of Government of Karnataka had disbursed compensation. However, land losers had filed cases during 2002 before the Hon'ble Civil Court at Chitradurga

for enhanced compensation. Since Railway was not made a party in these cases, Railway was not aware of these cases till issue of Execution Petition. Railway has taken action for arranging payment of enhanced compensation within the time frame stipulated by the Hon'ble Court.

As land compensation is disbursed by State Governments, no action is required by Railways in such cases.

Security measures to prevent manipulation of online booking website

1082. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has taken a slew of measures, including a 35 second compulsory wait, to book tickets online through its website to facilitate hassle-free booking by genuine ticket seekers; and

(b) whether the IRCTC has taken certain security measures to prevent manipulation of the tickets site and the site has been upgraded with a substantial investment to enable the system to book 15,000 tickets per minutes, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. In order to facilitate hassle free booking by genuine ticket seekers, time check has been implemented for filling of CAPTCHA, Passengers details and carrying out payment. These checks negate the benefit of automated software for form filling.

(b) In order to ensure security of the e-ticketing website *www.irctc.co.in*, audit of the e-ticketing system is got conducted by Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate, which is an attached office of the Department of Information Technology (DIT), Government of India. The capacity of e-ticketing has been upgraded with deployment of additional servers.

Policy on solar capacity panels

1083. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have come out with a policy on solar capacity panels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;