

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;

(c) to what extent the policy would help Railways to reduce its dependency on fossil fuels;

(d) whether Railways would think of using roof tops of stations and other buildings to set up solar panels, apart from setting up solar panels in large tracts of railway land; and

(e) if so, the action plan in the 2016-17 fiscal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have finalized a policy for harnessing solar energy on rooftops of Railway premises. The policy provides for setting up solar power plants through developer mode with a long term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) by Railways.

(c) In order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, it has been intended to expand sourcing of solar power as part of the Solar Mission of Indian Railways. By generating electricity from solar panels, there will be proportionate reduction in consumption of fossil fuels.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. As per the existing policy, rooftops of Railway premises including Railway Stations are planned to be utilized for setting up solar power panels. As part of action plan for 2016-17, Zonal Railways have started the process of setting up of about 50 MW solar power plants.

**Surcharge on railway passengers for travelling to Kumbh melas at
Haridwar and Ujjain**

†1084. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATTIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a surcharge has been imposed on railway passengers for travelling on the occasion of 'Ardh Kumbh Mela' being organised at Haridwar in 2016, if so, the amount of surcharge levied, rail travel class-wise, the period for which the surcharge would be recovered and the basis for recovering the surcharge; and

(b) whether, in context of (a) above, surcharge would also be imposed for 'Simhastha Kumbh Mela' at Ujjain, if so, the reasons therefor and the amount of surcharge and the period for which the surcharge would be imposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.