

M/s Fedders Lloyd Corporation Limited *vide* LoA dated 19.01.2016 at a cost of ₹17.88 crores. After recovery of ₹ 5.73 crores from M/s Avadh Transformer Private Limited (JV), in terms of the condition of the contract, towards recovery of damage, there is an increase in cost of the project by ₹ 6.19 crore.

(d) The contract awarded to M/s Avadh Transformer Private Limited (JV) was terminated as the firm failed to execute work in time. As per terms and conditions of contract, an amount of ₹ 5.73 crore have been recovered from the firm by way of encashment of Performance Guarantee, forfeiting the Security Deposit and recovery of penalty.

**Meetings with Members of Parliament in the region serviced  
by North Eastern Railway**

†1111. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings held with Members of Parliament in regions serviced by North-Eastern Railway during last five years and details of action taken on suggestions given by them in these meetings;

(b) the number of such meetings held in railway campuses and in hotels;

(c) the reasons for arranging meetings in hotels, total cost involved in organizing the meetings, head-wise, the number of guests participated in these meetings and number of rooms booked for such meetings; and

(d) whether Government is considering to issue guidelines to hold the meetings in railway campuses to check wasteful expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) 11 meetings with Members of Parliament (MP) in regions serviced by North Eastern Railway were held during last five years. Details of action taken on suggestions given by Hon'ble MPs in these meetings have been circulated to them as compliance to the minutes of meeting issued.

(b) 6 (Six) such meetings were held in Railway Campuses and 5 (Five) meetings were held in hotels.

(c) At times due to non-availability of sufficient infrastructure in Railway campuses, both for lodging and for holding meetings with Hon'ble MPs, alternative arrangements outside Railway premises are made. Details of expenditure incurred in holding 5 (Five) meetings in the hotels during last five years are as under:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

| Expenditure incurred head wise |                |            |             | No. of                              | No. of          |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Lodging                        | Transportation | Others     | Total       | persons<br>attended<br>the meeting. | rooms<br>booked |
| ₹ 2,09,629                     | ₹ 3,40,963     | ₹ 9,85,526 | ₹ 15,36,118 | 59                                  | 24              |

(d) Guidelines for economy in expenditure already exist.

#### Handing over of the catering system to IRCTC

†1112. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal to hand over the catering system of Railways to IRCTC once again, is under consideration;

(b) if so, the reasons for taking away this task from IRCTC and handing it over to the Railways;

(c) the reasons for considering to shift the task of catering from Railways to IRCTC once again and whether there is any guarantee that the same problems will not be faced once again on handing over the task of catering to IRCTC; and

(d) the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. As announced in the Rail Budget Speech 2016-17, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) would begin to manage catering service in a phased manner.

(b) The objectives of transferring the catering services from Railways to IRCTC were not fulfilled, as IRCTC could not professionalize the catering services. Therefore, the management of catering services were taken back by Railways from IRCTC as per the provisions of Catering Policy, 2010.

(c) and (d) In 2015, Sreedhran Committee, set up by the Ministry of Railways recommended transfer of catering services back to IRCTC, since IRCTC was set up as an extended arm of the Indian Railways to professionalize catering services on Indian Railways. It has been decided to give back the catering services to IRCTC in a phased manner with unbundling catering services by creating a distinction primarily between food preparation and food distribution. In order to address the problems faced earlier,

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