

Out of 1252 stations identified for development under 'Adarsh Station Scheme', 986 stations have already been developed under this scheme upto March 2016.

(c) The expenditure on development of stations under 'Adarsh Station Scheme', is generally funded under Plan Head-'Passenger Amenities'. The record of State-wise allocation/expenditure under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities' is not maintained. However, allocation/expenditure under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities', since 2009-10 is as under:

(Figures in crore of ₹)

Period	RE	Actual Expenditure (Gross)
2009-10	922.90	906.38
2010-11	997.30	910.89
2011-12	762.41	828.98
2012-13	967.56	841.79
2013-14	914.40	862.41
2014-15	1047.90	858.61
2015-16	1211.84	1045.45 (upto March 2016 provisional)
2016-17	838.28 (BE)	-

#### Proposed increase in passenger fares

†2379. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that sharp increase in passenger fares is being contemplated to bring Railways in profit;
- (b) if so, whether it would not be a burden on railway passengers;
- (c) if not, the measures being contemplated by Railways to enhance its income; and
- (d) the details of annual income and expenditure of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, evaluation of various alternatives relating to rationalization of passenger fare is a continuous process.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The details of annual income and expenditure for the last three years is as under:

Year	Earning (in crore)	Expenditure (₹ in crore)
2013-14	143213.88	139473.47
2014-15	161017.25	153352.32
2015-16	167948.00	157062.44

#### **Expenditure on power consumption**

2380. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expenditure on power consumption has increased to ₹ 12,332 crore in 2014-15 from ₹ 10,487 crore in 2012-13; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways have decided to explore the possibility of procuring power through bidding process in order to save on its power expenditure, if so, a detailed report thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways (IR) have paid ₹ 10,487 crore and ₹ 12,316 crore during 2012-13 and 2014-15 respectively towards power consumption for traction and non-traction purposes.

(b) Railways have started procurement of power under Open Access. In this process, about 700 Mega Watt (MW) power has till now been tied up from private producers, like M/s. Adani Power and Jindal India Thermal Power Limited (JITPL). In addition, about 500 MW power has also been tied up from Ratnagiri Gas and Power Private Limited (RGPPPL).

#### **Reduction in freight rates**

2381. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to decrease freight rates on dedicated merry-go-round system, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the freight rates for transporting goods have been revised down to ₹ 47 per tonne and that this will help in an additional 5 million tonne freight load, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) In order to provide an economical and reliable alternative short lead