

(b) if so, whether Government would provide rebate to the State in contribution towards expenditure with regard to construction of railway projects in the State;

(c) if not, whether Government would exempt the State from expenditure towards railway projects of strategic importance; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) So far as Ministry of Railways is concerned, there is no provision of any special category status to any State with regard to expenditure on projects or rebate on contribution towards expenditure on construction of rail projects. However, in Uttarakhand, Rishikesh-Karanprayag new line project has been taken up with full funding by Ministry of Finance.

Cleanliness of Bihar-bound trains

†2390. SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is determined to provide passenger facilities in trains, if so, the details of such facilities provided in 2016-17; and

(b) whether it is a fact that trains from and to Bihar are not clean and staff of house-keeping contractor, instead of cleaning even a single bathroom of a coach, sells material meant for cleaning or no such material is provided by the contractor to workers, if so, whether inspection of all coaches of Bihar Sampark Kranti Express, Jai Nagar Garib Rath and Swatantrata Senani Express has been made, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Provision of cushioned seats in coaches, toilet facilities on mainline trains, lights, fans, luggage racks, wash basin, mirror, magazine bags, laptop/mobile charging points, catering service, On Board Housekeeping Services (OBHS), SMS/Web based clean my coach service etc. are provided on trains as per prescribed norms/instructions. In 2016-17, above facilities in trains are continued to be provided.

(b) No, Sir. Inspections of Bihar Sampark Kranti Express, Jai Nagar Garib Rath and Swatantrata Senani Express trains have been done. During the period from April 2015 to April 2016, a total of 156 inspections were done on these trains at officer's and supervisor's level put together.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.