

**Railway overbridges at all crossings**

†1465. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to construct railway overbridges for traffic at all the railway crossings across the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering construction of railway overbridge on the western railway crossing of Karpurigram station, if so, by when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Work of construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) in lieu of Level Crossing (LC) No. 53-A between Samastipur—Karpurigram section of East Central Railway has been sanctioned on cost sharing basis with State Government at a total cost of ₹ 22.95 crores (Railway's share as ₹ 9.68 crores and State Government's share as ₹ 13.27 crores).

**Automated system for cleaning toilets and tracks**

1466. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have an automated system in place to clean toilets and tracks;

(b) if so, whether cleaning staff is employed by Railways to clean toilets and tracks; and

(c) if so, the number thereof and the wages Railways provide to such staff members?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) All major stations, including toilets have been provided with mechanism of cleaning contracts, rag picking and garbage disposal contracts covering cleaning of toilets and tracks.

At stations where cleaning is not out-sourced, departmental cleaning system is in place. Moreover, to improve the standard of cleanliness, public toilets at some railway

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

stations have been brought under the 'Pay & Use' scheme with the participation of the private sector.

(c) The number of Railway departmental staff engaged for various cleaning activities keeps varying depending upon the extent of cleaning activities outsourced through switching over to contracts.

Presently, Railway departmental staff engaged in cleaning activities are being paid as per the scales of pay applicable to their grades as given below:

- (i) Designations: Safai Jamadar/Senior Safaiwala/Safaiwala (or equivalent).
- (ii) Wages: Pay Band-1: ₹ 5200-20200, Grade Pay- ₹ 2400/2000/1900/1800.

#### **Introduction of new trains**

†1467. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new trains introduced, proposed to be introduced and extension of new trains in the year 2016-17; and

(b) the details of measures taken or proposed to be taken by Railways for service, safety and security of railway passengers during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) In the year 2016-17 (upto June, 2016), 19 new train services and extension of 10 existing train services has been implemented. In the Railway Budget 2016-17, introduction of Antyodaya, Humsafar, Tejas and Uday type of train services has been announced and will be introduced upon availability of coaches, necessary clearance of Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), etc. Moreover, introduction of new train services other than announced in Railway Budgets and extension of existing train services is an on-going process over Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, commercial viability, availability of resources, etc.

(b) Improvement of catering services is an on-going process. Steps taken/being taken to ensure that good quality and hygienic food is served to the passengers include: (i) Introduction of station based E-Catering for widening the range of options available to passengers for ordering food of their choice; (ii) Introduction of precooked food ('ready to eat' meals) in the range of options available to passengers; (iii) Operation of centralized Catering Service Monitoring Cell (CSMC) (toll free number 1800-111-321) for prompt redressal of passenger grievances relating to the catering activities and real