

(d) whether IRCTC has conducted raids or carried out inspection about the quality of food and the rate at which the vendors are selling their food products in the trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Catering services are provided by Zonal Railways and Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) to passengers departmentally or through private licensees in trains in accordance with the provisions of Catering Policy 2010 and other instructions issued from time to time. At present, 117 mobile units are being managed by IRCTC.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Railways has notified the menu and tariff of Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto express trains and other Mail/Express trains *vide* Commercial Circular No. 32 of 2014 and Commercial Circular No.78 of 2012 respectively. These Commercial Circulars are available at this Ministry's website www.indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard > About Indian Railways > Railway Board Directorates > Traffic Commercial > Commercial Circulars. Besides this, sale of A-La-Carte items in Mail/Express trains has also been permitted. These instructions dated 26.09.2012 are available at IRCTC's website www.irctc.com > Catering > IRCTC: Standard Menu > A-La-Carte Menu.

(d) In its endeavour to provide quality and hygienic food to the passengers, Railways have developed and operationalized an institutionalized mechanism for monitoring of quality and hygiene of catering services through regular inspections at various levels to address catering complaints. Penal action is taken against the licensee depending upon the gravity of offense which *inter alia* includes imposition of hefty fines, termination of contract etc.

Recommendations of the Anil Kakodkar Committee

3473. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry proposes to implement the recommendations of the Anil Kakodkar Committee to improve the safety of Railways, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government proposes to empower foremen, through training and technology, to enable them do their work more efficiently, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Of the 106 recommendations made by the High Level Safety Review Committee (Kakodkar Committee), 68 recommendations have been found fully acceptable, 19 partially acceptable and 19 not acceptable to the Ministry of Railways.

Of the 68 accepted recommendations, 27 recommendations have been fully implemented and the remaining recommendations are in various stages of implementation.

(b) All safety category railway employees are given structured training at various stages of their career. Detailed training modules as per prescribed periodicity are available for each category at initial/promotional stages along with refresher courses. These modules are updated keeping in view the technological changes and changes in working practice. In addition, Disaster Management Modules are in place for training safety category staff and the frontline staff. Frontline staff are also given training in fire fighting and first aid.

Electrification of railway networks

3474. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry would consider full electrification of railway networks;
- (b) whether any research has been carried out to check the feasibility of full electrification; and
- (c) the cost to Government for full electrification of railway networks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to electrify all Indian Railways net work, as electrification of railway lines is decided on the basis of financial viability, traffic volume and operational feasibility.

As on 01.04.2016, Indian Railways have a total of 27,999 Route Kilometres of electrified network out of total network of 66030 Route Kilometres.

Further, Indian Railways have prepared an Action Plan to electrify 24400 route kilometres in five years (2016-17 to 2020-21).

Attacks in trains by robbers

3475. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures undertaken to increase security in outstation trains in the wake of recent attacks in trains by robbers, as reported in some sections of the media;
- (b) whether security measures have been enhanced at important stations to deter unauthorized entry of miscreants; and