

Ministry of Railways (MoR) has developed and launched web-based application for speedy approval of GADs of ROBs/RUBs.

As on 16.11.2016, out of total 319 GADs, 166 GADs approved by Railways and 126 GADs are under examination with MORTH/NHAI and balance 27 GADs are under examination with Railways.

Overcrowded Mumbai suburban trains

429. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than eighty lakh people travel daily in Mumbai suburban trains—the lifeline of the city and many of the trains are running overcrowded, if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;

(b) whether Government is considering any proposal with the Government of Maharashtra for constructing an elevated corridor to decongest the traffic; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the details of plans chalked out by Railways to sort out the problems of local train passengers during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Around 74 lakh passengers travelled daily in Mumbai suburban section during the Financial Year 2015-16.

Mumbai Suburban consists of two Zonal Railways *i.e.* Central Railway and Western Railway. To reduce overcrowding in suburban trains, Central Railway has increased the number of suburban services to 1660 in the year 2015-16 *i.e.* a growth of 2.6% over the corresponding previous year. 590 services on harbor line have been converted from 9 Car rakes to 12 Car rakes. The number of suburban services in the crucial and highly patronized section between Thane and Kalyan has been increased to 11 trains per hour. In Western Railway, suburban trains have been augmented from 12285 coaches in the year 2010-11 to 14484 in the year 2015-16, reflecting an increase of about 18%. However, augmentation of suburban trains is an ongoing process subject to operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc.

(b) and (c) The proposal for fast elevated corridor between CSTM-Panvel (49 km) with a spur line to Navi Mumbai International Airport (6.6 km) from Seawood/Nerul at an estimated cost of ₹ 12,131 crore, to be shared between Ministry of Railways and Government of Maharashtra has been received in the Ministry. Completion of this project will reduce travel time, provide better travel experience to passengers due to air-conditioned services, facilitate de-congestion on the Harbour Line and enable eastward expansion of Greater Mumbai. Ministry of Railways is awaiting approval from the State Government for implementation of Bandra-Virar (48 kms) elevated suburban rail corridor through PPP.