

(c) On Jodhpur-Luni-Marwar section, there already exists a double line between Jodhpur and Luni. No proposal for doubling of Luni-Marwar section is pending.

Revenue from surge pricing in trains

438. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have introduced surge pricing in Rajdhani, Durgam and Shatabdi trains from 9 September, 2016; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the expected revenue earning from this step in a year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) With effect from 09.09.2016, the concept of Flexi Fare System has been introduced in Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Durgam train services. Under this scheme, the fare increases by 10% with every 10% of berths sold subject to maximum prescribed limit 1.5 times in classes second AC, Sleeper, Second sitting (reserved), AC Chair Car and 1.4 times in 3rd AC class. No change have been made in the fare for 1st AC and Executive class of travel.

Additional earning due to introduction of Flexi Fare shall depend on the demand pattern. It is therefore, not feasible to work out in advance the overall additional revenue for the remaining period of the current year.

Railway bridges having outlived their life span

†439. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway bridges in the country that have outlived their life span, State-wise list thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry has formulated any time-bound scheme for construction of new bridges in place of those railway bridges which have outlived their life span; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government does not consider that these bridges are in the interest of the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) There are a total of 1,40,919 bridges, of varying ages, on Indian Railways out of which 38,195 bridges are more than 100 years old. However, the age of the bridge does not have any direct relevance on the physical condition of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the bridge. The information on bridges is maintained Zone-wise and not State-wise. The Zone-wise break-up of Railway Bridges is as under:

Zonal Railway	Central	Eastern	East Central	East Coast	Northern	North Central	North Eastern	Northeast Frontier
No. of bridges	10057	4770	7408	10010	19085	5877	3837	6838
Zonal Railway	North Western	Southern	South Central	South Eastern	South East Central	South Western	Western	West Central
No. of bridges	5982	15730	14649	7461	4311	7529	10793	6582

There is a well established system of inspection of bridges on Indian Railways. All the bridges are inspected twice a year, one before the onset of monsoon and one detailed inspection after the monsoon. In addition, certain bridges are also inspected more frequently depending upon their condition. Repair/strengthening/rehabilitation/rebuilding of bridges is a continuous process and is undertaken whenever so warranted by their physical condition as ascertained during these inspections and not on the basis of age. If the corrective/remedial measures are expected to take a long duration due to the complexity of the site situation, etc., suitable safety measures like imposing speed restrictions and keeping such bridge under close watch are taken till the bridge is repaired/strengthened/rehabilitated/rebuilt. During the last five years (2011-12 to 2015-16), 3846 bridges have been repaired/strengthened/rehabilitated/rebuilt on Indian Railways.

Plan for track renewal

440. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have prepared any plan for track renewal during the Twelfth Plan period, if so, the details thereof, zone-wise;

(b) whether the absence of track renewal work has resulted in high maintenance costs and reduced reliability of assets, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Railways to speed up the track renewal work in the country, including in North zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Track Renewal Targets are fixed every year. The details of Track Renewal Targets during Twelfth Plan period (*i.e.* 2012-13 to 2016-17), Zone-wise are as below: