

(b) All passengers trains are provided with First Aid Boxes containing essential drugs and dressing materials. The First Aid Box is available with the Guard of the train who is trained to provide basic First Aid to the needy passengers. In case of medical emergency, passengers can contact help line number 138 through their mobile phones or inform on-board ticket checker for arranging medical assistance. In addition, First Aid Boxes with wide range of medicines, disposable medical materials have been provided with the Train Superintendents of Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains. Further, the Station Masters have details of Doctors, Clinics and Hospitals (Railway, other Government and Private) in the vicinity of the station, so that their services could also be availed, in emergencies.

Use of train toilets while trains are stationary

1233. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that use of toilets in trains cause unhygienic and filthy conditions during the period they remain stationary at the railway stations;

(b) if so, why no concrete action is being taken by Railways despite several studies got conducted in the past;

(c) the concrete steps Government has decided to take to tackle this menace to improve the unhygienic condition of railway stations; and

(d) whether the Ministry will join hands with the Ministries of Urban Development and Tourism to formulate a well conceived programme as part of Swachh Bharat programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 1. Following actions have been taken by Railways to reduce human waste falling on to the platform tracks at stations:—

- (i) Locking of empty coaching rakes stabled in the platforms is being done for preventing unauthorised use of toilets in the coaches when these are not under maintenance.
- (ii) Provision of Bio-toilets prevents human waste from falling onto the track. Coaches in service are being progressively fitted with bio-toilets. Till 31.10.2016 over 49,000 bio-toilets have been fitted in more than 14,000 coaches.
- (iii) Awareness among the rail users is being increased through display of information by means of public announcement system as well as display

boards/labels to advise passengers not to use toilets when the trains are at stations.

2. In addition to the above, to avoid an unhygienic situation due to human waste falling on the tracks at stations, following actions are taken:

- (i) Provision of washable concrete aprons for tracks in the platform area.
- (ii) Proper mechanised arrangement for cleaning of tracks at platforms.
- (iii) Provision and maintenance of toilets at stations for the use of passengers.

(d) Ministry of Railways, in consultation with Ministry of Urban Development is organising periodical campaigns under Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat Mission at major and important stations, which include generation of awareness among the rail users through special drives to inculcate correct practices on the use of toilets and to improve cleanliness at stations.

Cabinet approval for laying of new railway lines

†1234. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cabinet approval has been accorded for laying third line from Nagpur to Rajnandgaon, Bilaspur to Jharsuguda in Odisha, Jhansi to Beena, Itarsi to Nagpur, Balharshah in Maharashtra to Kazipet and from Gudur to Vijayawada;

(b) the target to complete the laying of each of the above railway lines;

(c) by when the work of laying of these railway lines will be started; and

(d) the estimated cost of each of these lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Completion of projects depends on many factors such as shifting of services, construction of road over and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies, law and order situation etc. in addition to availability of funds.

(c) and (d) Details of the projects alongwith estimated cost and work status are as under:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.