

**Wi-Fi services in trains**

4145. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to provide Wi-Fi services to passengers in trains; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) As a pilot project, Railways have provided Wi-Fi in Howrah–New Delhi–Howrah Rajdhani Express using Satellite communication technology. This technology is very capital intensive with recurring costs in form of bandwidth charges.

Thus Railways are exploring various cost effective technologies to provide Wi-Fi in moving trains. Once such a technology is available, decision to extend Wi-Fi facility in trains will be taken.

**Renovation of railway stations in Jharkhand**

4146. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to renovate railway stations under its railway stations redevelopment programme, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number and details of stations being considered for renovation and redevelopment, particularly in Jharkhand; and

(c) the quantum of funds allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways has advertised its plan to offer 'A-1' and 'A' category stations on 'as is where is' basis for redevelopment by inviting proposals from interested parties with their designs and business ideas. The entire cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the station.

(b) The State-wise details of the 'A-1' and 'A' category railway stations are given in Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to answer to USQ No. 4120 part (a) to (c)]. The following are 'A-1 and A' category stations in the State of Jharkhand:

Bokaro Steel City, Daltonganj, Dhanbad, Gomoh, Hatia, Jasidih, Koderma, Madhupur, Parasnath, Ranchi and Tatanagar.