

the train will facilitate the cleaning of coaches. Passengers can demand the cleaning of the coaches and can avail this service at any time by sending an SMS at a designated number.

**(xxvi) Single Person Accountability for All Facilities on a Train**

Under the scheme, the Train Superintendent (TS) has been made single person responsible for all facilities on train. All railway personnel and Supervisors of all out sourced agencies report to the TS for effective control and supervision to ensure improvement in onboard services offered by Railways. Sr. DCM (Chg)/ Delhi division acts as "Product Manager" for all Rajdhani services starting from and terminating in Delhi area.

**National Policy of Food Processing**

\*174. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is formulating a National Policy of Food Processing, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry is holding consultations with stakeholders for the formulation of this Policy, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time period set for constituting the Expert Group to formulate the Draft National Policy of Food Processing?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry is in the process of formulating a National Food Processing policy for overall growth and development of the food processing industry with an overarching goal of providing remunerative return to farmers and reducing wastages. It also suggests steps to be taken up by the States/Union Territories to achieve these goals. The objectives of the National Food Processing Policy include creation of adequate infrastructure facilities along the supply chain to ensure better prices for farmers and enable delivery of affordable and quality produce to consumers. The policy also aims to generate more opportunities for the development of the food processing industry, create employment and to position India as the preferred investment destination. A comprehensive National Food Processing Policy would be an effective step to catalyse investments and optimize growth in the sector.

(b) and (c) Ministry has conducted a consultation on National Food Processing

Policy with stakeholders on 8th February, 2017. The draft policy document was also shared with the State Food Processing Ministers in a meeting held on 6th March, 2017 in New Delhi, for their comments/suggestions. The draft National Food Processing Policy has been uploaded on the website of the Ministry seeking comments from stakeholders and general public. The National Food Processing Policy will be finalised after taking into account the suggestions of all stakeholders including State Governments.

### **Reservation for women in Central and State Legislatures**

\*175. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce a legislation to provide for one third reservation for women in Central and State Legislatures;

(b) whether Government has held any consultations/meetings with various political parties regarding the issue; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) During the years, a consistent demand has been made from various quarters for giving adequate representation to women in Parliament and State Legislatures and to provide for reservation of one-third seats for women in Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies including the Legislative Assemblies of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, for a period of 15 years. A Bill, namely, the Constitution (One Hundred and Eight Amendment) Bill, 2008 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 6th May, 2008. The Rajya Sabha passed the said Bill on 9th March, 2010; but it could not be passed by the Fifteenth Lok Sabha. The said Bill lapsed on dissolution of the fifteenth Lok Sabha.

It has been the endeavor of the Government to provide for reservation of one-third seats for women in the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies. The issue involved needs careful consideration on the basis of consensus among all political parties before a Bill for amendment in the Constitution is brought before Parliament.

### **Suicide by farmers**

\*176. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that 72 per cent of the