

**Survey for new rail routes in Uttarakhand**

†2675. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether he had made an announcement for conducting a survey of new rail routes during his visit to Uttarakhand;
- (b) if so, the names of those rail routes;
- (c) whether funds have been allocated for survey of new rail routes; and
- (d) if so, the amount of funds allocated route-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Hon'ble Minister of Railways announced survey of rail line connecting Char Dham Uttarakhand in November, 2016.

(b) to (d) Final location survey for new line rail connectivity to Char Dham (Gangotri, Yamunotri, Badrinath and Kedarnath involving route length of 327 km.) in Uttarakhand has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 120.92 crore in budget 2017-18. Survey is being taken up.

**New trains for Gujarat**

2676. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Gujarat has been regularly requesting Railways to start new trains;
- (b) whether Railways have agreed in-principle to start the new trains; and
- (c) if so, the progress made on each of the trains demanded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received at various levels of Railways' Administration for introduction of new trains. Action as found feasible and justified is taken from time to time. This is an ongoing exercise in Indian Railways. Sriganganagar-Tiruchchirapalli Humsafar Express train had already been introduced with effect from 27.02.2017.

The following trains serving the State of Gujarat will be introduced shortly:—

- (i) Ahmedabad-Chennai Humsafar Express.

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.