

- (ii) Jainagar-Udhna Antyodaya Express.
- (iii) Bandra-Jamnagar Uday Express.
- (iv) Bandra-Patna Humsafar Express.
- (v) Bandra-Gorakhpur Antyodaya Express.

Joint venture with Odisha for railway projects

2677. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Odisha was one of the State Governments who had come forward to take up railway projects through joint venture;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with details of projects proposed to be taken up for development;

(c) whether land has been acquired for these projects, particularly for Behrampur-Sambalpur line;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the progress made so far in respect of clearances, mobilisation of funds, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways and State Government of Odisha have signed the Joint Venture (JV) Agreement to incorporate a State level Joint Venture Company (State JV). State JV, after its incorporation, in its Board meeting will decide to undertake the survey and development of mutually identified viable railway project(s) including project(s) with viability gap funding.

(c) Behrampur-Sambalpur line is not yet a sanctioned work. It has been listed in 2016-17 in the Annexure to the Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme of Railways proposed through Joint Ventures, SPVs, Partnership with State Governments and Stakeholders.

(d) and (e) Question do not arise.

2678. **[The question was cancelled.]**

Ro-Ro freight service

2679. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently introduced Ro-Ro freight service by Railways is intended only for Delhi or it will be extended to other metro cities as well; and

(b) if so, by when this will be implemented, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Roll-on-Roll-off (Ro-Ro) service was initially introduced on Konkan Railway during the year 1999. Since then, the service is running on Konkan Railway on Diesel route. On electrified routes, there are operational constraints for running of Ro-Ro service due to Over Head Equipment (OHE). However, during the recent past, trial run of Roll-on-Roll-off (Ro-Ro) Service has been carried out on following routes:—

- (i) Across the Ganga River in Bihar between Bihta and Turki over East Central Railway;
- (ii) Between Bhanga and Churaibari in Northeast Frontier Railway for carriage of loaded/empty petrol tankers;
- (iii) Between Nagothane and Boisar;
- (iv) Between Garhi Harsaru to Muradnagar.

Roll-on-Roll-off (Ro-Ro) Service can be tried out on other routes also subject to demand and operational feasibility.

End to Train Telemetry (EoTT) device in trains

2680. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation (DFCC) is going to introduce End to Train Telemetry (EoTT) device in the freight trains to help the driver monitor the train movement through this device and thus, eliminate services of about 1000 guards;

(b) whether once the 3344 kilometres dedicated corridor is fully operational, the corridor may be free from all level crossings and will ensure time-bound transportation of goods; and

(c) by when this project is going to be fully operational and what would be the fate of guards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL) is an infrastructure provider. End to Train Telemetry (EoTT) device is an alternative of running trains without guard on an exclusive freight corridor.

(b) Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) has been envisaged to be free from level crossings gates, to help enhance the operational efficiency and safety standards. However elimination of level crossings is feasible only in a phased manner.