

**Introduction of premium trains from Amritsar**

2692. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the fact that Amritsar is known for its major tourist attractions like Golden Temple, Jalianwala Bagh, Durgiana Temple, Wagah Border, etc., and lakhs of tourists visit Amritsar from across the world, the Ministry is in process to introduce premium trains such as Rajdhani Express/Duronto/Tejas or new Shatabdi trains from Amritsar;

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

(c) the list of new trains proposed to be introduced from Amritsar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) At present, there is no proposal to introduce Rajdhani/Duronto/Tejas/Shatabdi Express trains from Amritsar due to operational and resource constraints. However, introduction of new trains including Rajdhani/Duronto/Shatabdi/Tejas Express is an ongoing process over Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, commercial viability, availability of resources etc.

**Effectiveness of Railway Safety Commission**

2693. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the effectiveness of Railway Safety Commission was ever assessed;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) the reasons for so many accidents if it is effective; and

(d) if not, what is being done in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The Commission of Railway Safety working under the administrative control of the Ministry of Civil Aviation (Government of India) deals with the matters pertaining to safety of rail travel and train operations and is charged with certain statutory functions laid down in the Railway Act, 1989. These functions are inspectorial, investigatory and advisory in nature. The Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety prepares Annual Report on the activities of the Commission of Railway Safety in terms of section 10 of the Railway Act, 1989. This report is laid in the Parliament.

(c) and (d) The number of accidents per million train kilometers has come down from 00.23 in 2006-07 to 00.10 in 2015-16. Broad classification of causes of consequential train accidents during the last two years and current year are as under:—