

Emission regulations and standards

2350. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways will soon come under emission regulations and standards to achieve the targets submitted by India under the Paris Climate Change Agreement, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the necessary measures taken by the Ministry to ensure compliance to the emission standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) is the nodal and notification agency for fixing Emission Standards for Diesel Locomotives and as per MOEF&CC report:

“In order to reduce emission from Diesel locomotives in the country, the interim emission standards for Diesel locomotives are proposed to be drafted in consultation with Ministry of Railways, Rail India Technical and Economic Service (RITES), Engine Development Directorate Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). The process of development of standards is likely to be completed by March 2019, subject to adequate data being made available”.

In this regard, Railways have already submitted its interim report to Central Pollution Control Board (MOEF&CC). Moreover, Indian Railways has committed to reduce its emission intensity to the extent of 32% by 2030 by taking series of energy efficiency initiatives.

In addition, Indian Railways has also entrusted M/s RITES for “Consultancy contract for Study on Emissions from Diesel Locomotives and setting up of Emission Standards”.

(b) The details of the necessary measure taken by the Ministry of Railways to ensure compliance to the standards are enumerated below:

- (i) Use of Biodiesel blends- Already 5% bio diesel blending has been started by Indian Railways.

Further steps taken/being taken by the Railways to implement sustained energy efficiency measures are as under:—

- (i) Development of Common Rail electronic Direct Injection (CReDI) system
- (ii) Conversion of Diesel Power Car (DPC) in dual fuel (Diesel+LNG/CNG) mode has been started.

- (iii) Development of Miller cycle based turbochargers for ALCO Locomotives.
- (iv) Development of Variable Turbine Geometry (VTG) Turbochargers for ALCO Locomotives.
- (v) Development of High Effectiveness large after cooler for ALCO Locomotives.

Earnings from cancellation of reserved tickets

2351. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways collected ₹ 1400 crore in 2016-17 through cancellation of reserved tickets of passengers;
- (b) the cancellation fee which Railways obtained in 2016-17 from South Central Railway (SCR);
- (c) whether it is a fact that there has been a rise of 26 per cent in ticket cancellation earnings in 2016-17 over the previous year;
- (d) in what manner Railways justify this oppressive ticket cancellation system leading to a penal rate on passengers; and
- (e) the steps proposed to refund such cancellation charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) South Central Railway has realised ₹ 103.27 crore as cancellation and clerkage charges on the reserved tickets during the year 2016-17.

(c) There has been an increase of approximately 25% in the amount realised from cancellation of reserved tickets in 2016-17 over the previous year.

(d) and (e) The cancellation charges are levied for cancellation of tickets as per the Railway Passengers (Cancellation of Ticket and Refund of fare) Rules, 2015 which also provide for refund of fare subject to the relevant provisions of these Rules. However, there is no provision to refund the cancellation charges so recoverable under the Rules.

MoU with Australia in textile, clothing and fashion sectors

2352. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Australia have signed MoU to intensify cooperation in textile, clothing, handloom and fashion, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the benefit that Indian weavers will get out of this MoU;