

- (3) Two Dedicated Freight Corridors – the Eastern and Western Corridors – spanning a total length of 3,360 Kilometers are under construction. The two corridors are the 1,856 route km. Eastern Corridor and 1,504 route km. Western Corridor.

**Transfer of a section of railway lines from
Thiruvananthapuram Division**

*12. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways intend to transfer a part of railway lines in Thiruvananthapuram Division to adjoining division in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether this is against the assurance given by authorities to Kerala when there was a similar move earlier; and

(c) whether Railways propose to introduce more trains along the new Palakkad-Pollachi broad gauge route as desired by passengers and businessmen in both Tamil Nadu and Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal in the Ministry of Railways to change the jurisdiction of either Madurai or Thiruvananthapuram Divisions of Southern Railway Zone.

(c) To cater to the needs of passengers of Palakkad-Pollachi section, 03 pairs of train services have been provided on the section, with effect from 01.11.2017, by extending the following trains *via*. Palakkad-Pollachi:—

(i) 22651/22652 Chennai Central-Pollachi Express up to Palakkad.

(ii) 16343/16344 Thiruvananthapuram-Palakkad Amritha Express up to Maduari.

(iii) 56769/56770 Tiruchendur-Palani Passenger up to Palakkad.

Besides, introduction of trains is an on-going process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, commercial viability and availability of resources.

Committee to study demands of rural postal employees

†*13. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has constituted a Committee to study the demands of rural postal employees working in various parts of the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, when and whether the Committee has submitted its report to Government;
- (c) if so, the recommendations of the Committee that have been accepted; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) A One Man Committee was constituted to study the various demand of rural postal employees (Gramin Dak Sevaks) working in various parts of the country. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 24.11.2016. The recommendations of the Committee have been considered by the Department and necessary approvals are being obtained in this regard.

- (d) Does not arise in view of above.

Setting up of commercial courts

*14. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to establish Commercial Courts in districts to further improve the parameters, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the specified value of commercial disputes is likely to be brought down so as to expand the scope of commercial adjudication effectively and expeditiously; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) To ensure speedy disposal of high value commercial disputes, the Government has enacted the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act, 2015. As provided in Section 3 of the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act, 2015, it is for the State Government to constitute commercial courts at District level after consulting with the concerned High Court. As per information received so far, the State Governments have notified setting up of 247 Commercial Courts in various Districts in the country.

(b) and (c) The Government endeavors to provide for adjudication of commercial disputes, of reasonable value which may also be relevant for improvement of the India's Rank in the World Bank Report on Doing Business.