

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) While observing large number of casualties on the entire railway system due to unlawful trespassing, the High Level Safety Review Committee (Kakodkar Committee) in its report has *inter alia* indicated that on the Mumbai Suburban System, trespassing takes place mainly on account of lack of barricading, fencing, absence of adequate number of pedestrian over bridges, reluctance to replace pedestrian level crossings with foot over bridges etc. Lack of passenger facilities such as sufficient number of platforms, narrow platforms, escalators and elevators for physically challenged etc. and insufficient train services are the main reasons for such a heavy human toll on the Mumbai Suburban System. The Committee has recommended that a High Level Task Force involving State Government, ZRUCC and NGOs be set up to recommend constructive measures which will alleviate or eliminate this problem in the near future. Accordingly, Zonal Railways have been advised to take necessary action.

(b) It is the endeavour of the Railways to provide/augment/improve amenities at all railway stations. With a view to improving Mumbai suburban stations, passenger amenity works sanctioned since 2012-13 include provision/replacement of 15 nos. foot over bridges, raising of 154 nos. platforms, provision of covers over platforms at 7 nos. stations and extension of platform at 1 station.

#### **Identification of routes for electrification of tracks**

129. SHRI. D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are set to expedite the electrification process and make all the trains run on electricity, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways have identified the railway sections/routes which are yet to be electrified and if so, the details of such sections/routes, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to achieve the expeditious completion of electrification in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have prepared an Action Plan to electrify 38000 Route Kilometers in five years (2017-18 to 2021-22) for 100% electrification of its Broad Gauge (BG) rail routes. Year wise details are as under:—

Year	Route Kilometer targeted for commissioning on electric traction.
2017-18	4000
2018-19	6000
2019-20	7000
2020-21	10500
2021-22	10500
TOTAL	38000

(b) Railway Electrification projects are not confined to State boundaries. State-wise route kilometers of railway lines identified for electrification and planned for inclusion in Budget 2018-19 are as under:

Sl. No.	States	Total Route Kilometers identified for electrification
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	385
2.	Assam	1448
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	12
4.	Bihar	566
5.	Chhattisgarh	76
6.	Gujarat	1088
7.	Haryana	116
8.	Himachal Pradesh	40
9.	Jharkhand	293
10.	Karnataka	1051
11.	Kerala	150
12.	Madhya Pradesh	416
13.	Maharashtra	615
14.	Mizoram	02
15.	Odisha	583
16.	Punjab	964
17.	Rajasthan	1991
18.	Telangana	301

1	2	3
19.	Tamil Nadu	1016
20.	Tripura	267
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1308
22.	Uttarakhand	185
23.	West Bengal	802
TOTAL		13675

(c) To achieve 100% electrification of Broad Gauge (BG) rail routes, pace of electrification has been increased from present average of 1700 route kilometer per Annum to 4000 Route Kilometer/Annum which will further be increased to 6000 Route Kilometers in 2018-19.

Further, to expedite electrification of railway lines in the country, various steps have been taken, which *inter alia* include award of Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) contracts, better project monitoring mechanism, enhancing power of field units for award of contracts including sanction of estimates and increasing the number of executing agencies from existing three to six by entrusting electrification works to new agencies *viz.* Indian Railway Construction Company, Rail India Technical and Economic Services and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited.

#### **Facilities for Foreign Nationals and NRIS under FTQ**

130. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether zonal railways have been advised to sensitise travelling ticket examiners on the validity of passports and visas that are mandatory documents required for travel by foreigners and NRIs, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that tickets cannot be booked by travel agents under Foreign Tourists Quota (FTQ); and

(c) whether it is also a fact that if the party seeking accommodation requires more berths than what is earmarked under the FTQ, the remaining passengers would be registered and provided confirmed accommodation on the opening day of reservation of general quota, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Instructions have been issued to Zonal Railways to educate ticket checking staff about the broad features of this scheme including