

01 due to equipment failure, 01 due to sabotage, 04 due to the Incidental factors and 01 accident occurred due to the combination of factors. Causes of 03 accidents are under investigation.

(b) Yes, Sir. Out of the above 45 consequential train derailments, 19 were attributed to track defect or rail fracture or weld failures.

(c) and (d) Railway tracks are replaced through track renewal works which is an ongoing process. Track renewal works are undertaken as and when stretch of track becomes due for renewal on the basis of criteria laid down in Indian Railway Permanent Way Manual on age cum condition basis *viz.* traffic carried in terms of gross million tonnes and incidence of rail fracture/failure, wear of rails, and maintainability of track as per standards etc. In case any stretch of track is not renewed in time due to various reasons including scarcity of funds, material etc., suitable speed restrictions, if required, are imposed to ensure safe running of trains.

For the year 2017-18, 3600 km target has been kept for track renewal, and additional funds are being provided through Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK).

#### **Allocation of budget for Rail Infrastructure Development**

158. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided not to seek additional budgetary allocation for rail infrastructure development during 2018-19 and raise the required financial resources on its own; and

(b) if so, the major areas through which the financial requirements are likely to be explored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Railway connectivity near Kochi international airport**

159. SHRI JOY ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poor railway connectivity and lack of amenities near Kochi International Airport Limited is adversely affecting thousands of air passengers, tourists, visitors and employees of the CIAL;

(b) if so, whether Railways will consider construction of a railway station at Nedumbassery with international standards and modern facilities; and