

For execution of railway projects like new lines/doubling/tripling/Gauge conversion/yard remodeling/Railway Production Units etc., Railways acquire the land as per provisions of prevalent Act governing land acquisition. However, available vacant land is also used for such projects to the extent possible. As such, there is no change in land possession policy for Railway projects.

Generation of electricity from Solar and Wind Energy

1427. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ:

SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways plan to generate a total of 1000 MW of electricity through solar and 200 MW through wind energy in the coming years;

(b) whether it is a fact that Railways will play an important role for the country to achieve reducing 35 per cent of its carbon emissions under the Paris Agreement; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are also aiming to reduce its non traction use of electricity through efficient electrical usage at stations and offices, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Indian Railways proposes to harness 1000 Mega Watt (MW) solar power and 200 MW wind energy by the year 2020-21 which will contribute to some extent towards reduction in carbon emission.

(c) Indian Railways is to provide LED lights at all Railway stations and buildings to reduce non-traction use of electricity.

Availability of Bio-toilets in all trains

1428. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bio-toilet facilities are available in all types of passenger trains and all coaches of trains, including general class coaches;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Railways had given responsibility to private agency/agencies to clean the coaches of trains, including toilets; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Bio-toilets are being provided in coaches of all types of passenger trains including general class coaches. At present, bio-toilet facilities are available in approximately 55% of the total coach population (including general class coaches) of Indian Railways.

(b) Being fitted progressively.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. With the increase in passenger services, locations, where adequate departmental staff is not available, Railways have engaged professional housekeeping agencies through outsourcing for cleaning of coaches of trains including toilets, with an aim to provide clean and hygienic environment to passengers in the trains.

Cleanliness at Sagauli Railway Station

1429. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether lack of cleanliness and sanitation at railway stations have been the biggest area of concern for railway passengers;

(b) if so, whether, according to a survey by the Ministry, Sagauli railway station in Bihar is among the top ten dirtiest stations in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and measures taken to upgrade/modernise passenger amenities at the station;

(d) whether the Ministry has developed any monitoring mechanism to gauge improvement in cleanliness across stations;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. However, some complaints of this nature are reported and continuous efforts are being made to address the same.

(b) Survey has ranked only the A1 and A category stations out of total 8500 stations. In a relative ranking, there would be some station ranked No.1 and some station ranked last *i.e.* 407 in this case. Sagauli stood at 405.

However, this ranking does not make Sagauli one of the top ten dirtiest Railway stations in the country.