

maximum of 7 alternate trains running within 72 hours from the journey date and time. The response to 'VIKALP' has been good as large number of passengers are opting for this scheme.

(c) At the time of preparation of first reservation chart of the passenger's original train, the VIKALP opted passenger who is not confirmed in the original train itself is transferred in the chosen alternate train in the same class subject to availability. After transferring, SMS (Short Message Service) is sent to the passenger informing about the new train/date, etc. No fare difference is charged or refunded if passenger is transferred in different train type. Passenger is marked as cancelled in original train. Passenger's name appears in the charts of the alternate trains.

(d) This scheme was introduced in November 2015. During the financial year 2015-16 (November 2015 to March 2016) only one passenger was shifted whereas in financial year 2016-17, 73 passengers were shifted. Keeping in view the poor response, the scheme was modified in the year 2017 and in financial year 2017-18 and 2018-19 (upto June 2018) a total of 16291 and 4533 passengers respectively have been provided confirmed accommodation under this scheme.

Revised programmes for station redevelopment scheme

2040. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was not so encouraging response to Government's Station Redevelopment Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to formulate any revised programme for station redevelopment;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) Indian Railways had advertised its plan to offer 'A-1' and 'A' category stations on Indian Railways for redevelopment on 'as is where is' basis, by inviting open bids from interested parties duly providing for amenities and other requirements of the Railways. The cost of station redevelopment was to be met by

leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. Twenty three stations were taken up for bidding in first phase by Zonal Railways under the Program. Out of these 23 stations, bids were received for two stations only, viz. Jammu Tawi (Northern Railway) and Kozhikode (Southern Railway) stations, which are under evaluation. No bids were received for other stations.

During various interactions with developers, investors and other stakeholders, various issues including longer lease period for commercially developed assets, multiple sub leasing, no restrictions on usage, guaranteed time bound approval by Railways' functionaries and simplified bid procedures were repeatedly raised. Ministry of Railways has formulated revised schemes for station redevelopment on fast track. A road map to further strengthen and empower Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC), as nodal agency to undertake redevelopment of more stations through simpler and transparent bidding procedures has been prepared. Accordingly, a Cabinet note has been initiated seeking Cabinet approval on this revised strategy of station redevelopment programme.

Incidents of theft in the Jammu Mail

2041. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of incidents of theft have been reported in the running trains, especially in reserved bogies of trains from Delhi to Jammu like the Jammu Mail;

(b) if so, the number of incidents of theft reported during the month of July, 2018, date-wise;

(c) the number of women who have reported thefts during the period, date-wise; and

(d) the action taken by Government in each case and whether involvement of the staff of Railways and Railway Protection Force has come to Government's notice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/District