

- (b) Steps taken to improve punctuality includes:-
- (i) Timings of certain Mail/Express trains has been rearranged and rationalized, which has improved punctuality of trains to some extent.
 - (ii) Shadow corridor blocks are being used to get optimum usage of corridor blocks to avoid repeated blocks.
 - (iii) Continuous efforts are taken to improve asset reliability to reduce failures to bare minimum level, so that detentions to trains are minimized.
- (c) 357.52 Kms track renewal sanction is available in Kerala State. Out of this, 202.07 Kms has been planned for current financial year 2018-19.

Construction of Nanjakode-Nilamboor railway line

2043. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to take up the construction of Nanjakode-Nilamboor railway line;
- (b) if so, the steps taken therefor, so far; and
- (c) whether Government has received the consent of Forest department to use their land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Construction of Nilambur-Nanjangud line has been included in Capital Investment Programme 2016-17. However, Government of Kerala has not identified this project to be taken up through the State Joint Venture Company.

- (c) No, Sir.

Deaths and injuries due to rail accidents

2044. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people who have lost their lives and injured in railway accidents since 2010, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware that there has been a sharp increase in deaths and injuries as a result of railway accidents;