

- (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;

(c) the reasons of this increase in casualties, including deaths and injuries, in railway accidents over the last four years; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to ensure that there are fewer railway accidents and fewer casualties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The year wise number of persons died/ injured in Railway accidents since 2010 onwards is as below:

Year	Dead	Injured
2010	390	572
2011	276	670
2012	192	350
2013	136	157
2014	252	213
2015	148	186
2016	192	314
2017	97	187
2018	18	16

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The plans formulated and efforts made to check train accidents include replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for up-gradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. The safety devices/systems being used to prevent accident include complete track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Colour Light LED Signal, Vigilance Control Device (VCD), usage of 60 kg rails, Pre- Stressed Concrete Sleepers, long rail panels, better welding technology, progressive use of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) Coaches and Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory (ICF) Coaches, etc.