

(c) At present, it is not feasible to restore the services due to requirement of maintenance corridor block to carry out safety related works.

Letters of MPs/Ex-MPs for EQ quota

†2869. SHRI KAILASH SONI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reservation Cell is not giving importance to the letters addressed to Railway Minister and Ministers of State by Members of Parliament and Ex-Members of Parliament for confirmation of reservation through EQ reservation letters;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of letters regarding reservation from MPs have been received by the Ministry during last six months;

(d) the number of railway reservation letters on which action has been taken to confirm their tickets; and

(e) whether concerned officers dealing with reservation letters do not give equal priority to all such requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) In order to meet the urgent travel requirements of High Official Requisition (HOR) holders (*viz.* Central Government Ministers, Judges of Hon'ble Supreme Court/High Courts of various States, etc.), Members of Parliament and other emergent demands, who are on the waiting list, a limited number of berths/seats are earmarked as Emergency Quota in different trains and in different classes. The quota is released by the Railways in accordance with the priority as per warrant of precedence and well established practice being followed since long. At the time of allotment of berths/seats, emergency quota is first allotted for self travel of HOR holders/Members of Parliament, etc., strictly as per their inter-se seniority in warrant of precedence. Thereafter, other requisitions received from various quarters including that from Members of Parliament are considered and the remaining quota is released taking into account various factors like status of passengers travelling, nature of urgency like travelling on Government duty, bereavement in the family, sickness, job interview, etc. Instructions are there for providing confirmed accommodation in case of waiting list tickets issued for self travel of HOR holders, Members of Parliament. Further, due priority is also given for self travel requests of former Members of Parliament. In case of requests forwarded

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

by them for other than self travel, at times, it is not feasible to accommodate all such requests when the demand exceeds the availability.

Since a large number of requests are received from various quarters at various levels and are dealt with on day to day basis, details of requests received for release of accommodation out of Emergency Quota including those from Hon'ble Members of Parliament are only preserved as per extant guidelines.

Connecting Chityala to Jaggayyapeta by rail

2870. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to connect Chityala to Jaggayyapeta by rail which is just 120 kilometres for the benefit of people and businessmen;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this line would benefit people of four Assembly Constituencies besides having direct connectivity from Hyderabad to Vijayawada; and
- (d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) No survey work for direct connectivity from Chityala to Jaggayyapeta is under consideration. However, Chityala is connected to Jaggayyapeta via Vishnupuram for goods train. Passenger fitness for line from Vishnupuram to Jaggayyapeta has been taken up.

Complete mechanisation of electrification programme

2871. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Railways are considering to make complete mechanisation of the electrification programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the electrical works like stringing the cables and other related works would be machine controlled for the first time in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?