

- (d) the details of funds allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Railways have planned for redevelopment of major Railway stations by making Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and with longer lease tenures. These include Railway stations situated in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Most of these stations will be redeveloped under PPP mode.

An MoU has been signed between Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) and National Buildings Construction Corporation India Limited (NBCC) for redevelopment of Nellore and Tirupati Railway stations in Andhra Pradesh. Bids have been invited for Tirupati Station. For Nellore station, Detailed Project Reports (DPR) is under approval.

- (d) Redevelopment of stations is planned through leveraging of commercial development of vacant land/air space in and around stations. Therefore, no funds have been earmarked for the purpose. Such projects shall generally be cost neutral to Railways.

Kannur seaport-airport-Wayanad-Coorg-Mysuru rail line

2877. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kannur seaport-airport-Wayanad-Coorg-Mysuru rail line proposal is under consideration of the Government; and
(b) if so, the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Section-wise status of the proposed Kannur seaport-airport-Wayanad-Coorg-Mysuru(Mysore) rail line is as under:-

- (i) Kannur-Mattannur rail line:- This new line proposal has been included in Capital Investment Programme 2016-17 with the proposal to take up the projects through Joint Ventures/Special Purpose Vehicle/Partnership with the State Governments and Stake Holders. In this regard, no proposal from Government of Kerala has been received.

Meanwhile, survey for this new line was also conducted during 2016-17. As per the survey report cost of construction of 23 Km. long new line has been assessed as ₹312.99 crore with rate of return of (-) 7.786%. This proposal could not be taken forward due to unremunerative nature and low traffic potential of the proposed new line.

- (ii) Thalassery-Mattannur-Wayanad-Coorg-Mysore rail line:- For this alignment area, Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL), a Joint Venture Company of Government of Kerala and Ministry of Railways had submitted feasibility report for a new line from Thalassery to Piriyaapatna for consideration and requisite approvals. As per this report, total cost for construction of 180 Km. long new line has been assessed as ₹ 5000 crore. It is observed that the proposed new line passes through the Western Ghats having fragile ecosystem and protected forest areas/sanctuaries. However, the report has been prepared without any survey on ground and there is no assessment of the impact of railway line in the forest zone. Local people are also agitating against the proposed alignment which passes through the State of Karnataka. Accordingly, KRDCL has been advised to sort out the issues of forest clearances and alignment with all the stakeholders involved including Government of Karnataka and thereafter, update the report for appropriate consideration.

Complaints for overcharging by railway caterers

2878. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of complaints for overcharging by railway caterers received over the last four years; and
- (b) the details of action taken against railway caterers over the last four years zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) In its endeavour to provide quality and hygienic food to the passengers, Railways have developed and operationalized an institutionalized mechanism for monitoring of quality and hygiene of catering services through regular inspections at various levels to address catering complaints. Zone-wise total number of complaints of overcharging of food items in trains received by the Railways and action taken thereon during the last 04 Financial Years and current Financial Year period (*i.e.* 01.04.2018 to 30.06.2018) are given in Statement-I, II, III, IV and V respectively (*See below*).

Providing quality catering service under both mobile and static catering units at the prescribed tariff is the aim of the Railways. Checking of quality, quantity and overcharging of food is an integral part of its inspection, which is being done regularly by Railway officials. All complaints are dealt strictly and action including monetary penalty, debarring and termination of contract is taken as per the gravity of the complaint and decisions are taken on case to case basis.