

of Doubling/3rd and 4th line were commissioned during 2009-2014 (5 years). In 2017-18, 999 km. of Doubling/3rd and 4th Line have been commissioned, which is an all time high achievement.

Law Commission for legalising betting in sports and gambling

*116. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended for legalisation of betting in sports and gambling since their ban has only driven these habits underground;

(b) whether betting and gambling come under legal list; and

(c) whether the State of Kerala has been running a transparent and popular lottery scheme under the name of Karunya for many years, the proceeds of which are spent on medicare of the poor in the State?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKER PRASAD):
(a) and (b) The Law Commission of India has submitted its 276th report titled "Legal Framework: Gambling and Sports Betting including in Cricket in India" to Government on 05.07.2018. In 276th report and press note for clarification uploaded on Law Commission of India's official website the Commission clarifies that *vide* para 9.7 of the report on page 115, it has been strongly and categorically recommended that legalising betting and gambling in india in the present scenario is not desirable, and that a complete ban on unlawful betting and gambling must be ensured. Again *vide* para 9.8, it has been recommended that effective regulation remains the only viable option to control gambling, if it is not possible to enforce a complete ban in order to prevent unlawful activities and the commission has recommended a number of guidelines and safeguards, in the event Parliament or the State Legislatures decide to regulates to these activities. The said Report is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Yes, State of Kerala conduct two lotteries namely Karunya and Karunya Plus, the net Revenue of which is being utilized for the medicare of poor in the state. The Karunya Lottery sales started on 03.09.2011 and that of Karunya Plus Lottery on 23.03.2014. The Lotteries are being conducted directly by the Government Department and the sales proceeds are remitted to the consolidated fund and the expenditure is being met from the consolidated fund by drawing from budget provisions.