

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kendri-Dhamtari including Abhanpur-Rajim branch line (67.20 Km) was sanctioned in year 2011-12 as Material Modification to Raipur-Titlagarh doubling project (203 Km) and survey for new line from Dhamtari to Kanker *via* Charama (75.80 Km) completed at a cost of ₹ 726.02 crore, survey report is under examination.

(c) A project for new line from Raipur to Jharsuguda falling in the State of Orissa and Chhattisgarh was included in Pink Book 2013-14 subject to requisite approvals. Cost of the project based on survey was ₹ 2161.37 crore. Niti Aayog at that time did not accord 'in principal' approval for carrying out the project. Since project was financially not viable, both the State Governments Orissa and Chhattisgarh have been requested for providing land free of cost and share 50% cost of the project.

Thereafter, Government of Chhattisgarh came forward through the State JV Company *i.e.* Chhattisgarh Railway Corporation Limited (CRCL) has identified this project for development and prepared the Detailed Project Report.

Alignment chosen by CRCL is based on expected viability of the project. Based on the proposal of CRCL, Ministry of Railways has granted 'in principle approval' for new BG (Electrified) line between Kharsia- Baloda Bazar-Naya Raipur-Durg Corridor (266 Km Approx.) including 11 Km between Naya Raipur and Exhibition Ground existing line and 12 Km Pawara to Durg at total cost of ₹ 4900.33 crore subject to equity of ₹ 500 - 800 crore by the JV company.

Maintenance of railway stations by private companies

†1736. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have decided to entrust the work of sanitation and maintenance of railway stations of the country to Private sector;

(b) if so, the names of the stations selected to be entrusted to Private sector;

(c) whether proposals from private companies have been received in this regards, if so, the names of such companies; and

(d) the detailed reasons for taking such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.