

Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) has been formed to implement the project. The final location survey, finalisation of alignment and geo-technical investigation have been completed. Total land required for the MAHSR project is 1434.4 hectares. Application/requisition for acquisition of the entire requirement has been given to respective State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli (DNH). Relevant notifications under Section-11 (in the State of Gujarat and DNH) and Namuna-1 (in the State of Maharashtra) have been published for approximately 1410 hectares. Joint Measurement Survey (JMS) has been completed for 1064 hectare. 37 hectare of private land has been acquired till date for the project.

(c) and (d) NHSRCL has established its project offices at Mumbai and Palghar in Maharashtra and Surat, Vadodara and Ahmedabad in Gujarat.

Redevelopment of railway stations

†2690. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry proposes to re-develop the railway stations considered important in terms of urban development and which have become crowded over the years;

(b) whether some foreign countries have shown interest in re-development of these railway stations; and

(c) if so, the names of such countries and cost of re-development of these railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has recently approved Railways' proposal for redevelopment of railway stations by Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and for longer lease tenure. Accordingly, all the stations on Indian Railways have been entrusted to IRSDC for undertaking the techno-economic feasibility studies. Based on the outcome of the feasibility studies, the stations are planned to be taken up for redevelopment, in phases.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. An agreement has been signed with the French Railway (SNCF) for joint study on Renovation Concept Design of Ambala and Ludhiana stations. Korean Railway has expressed interest in the re-development of New Delhi station.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Re-development of stations is planned through leveraging commercial development of vacant land and air space in and around railway stations, *i.e.* station re-development projects shall generally be cost neutral to Railways.

Accidents due to glitches in train's guiding system

2691. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reports concerning rail accidents had stated that a number of accidents happened on account of glitches in train's guiding system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the recent derailment of the New Farakka Express occurred due to the same reason; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) During the current year *i.e.* 2018-19 (upto 15th December, 2018), 45 consequential train accidents took place over Indian Railways. Out of these 45 consequential train accidents, 28 accidents occurred due to failure of railway staff, 7 occurred due to failure of other than railway staff, 5 occurred due to incidental factors and 5 accidents are under investigation.

(c) and (d) The statutory inquiry into the derailment of Train No. 14003 UP Malda Town-New Delhi (New Farakka) Express on 10.10.2018 has been conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Northern Circle, New Delhi under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The Commission has submitted the preliminary inquiry report in respect of said derailment where in its provisional findings, it has been provisionally concluded that the said derailment occurred due to loss of integrity of the interlocking system of signaling by human interference either in Relay Room or in Location box by railway staff and has classified the said accident as 'failure of railway staff'.

Removing unmanned railway level crossings

2692. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 5,000 unmanned railway level crossings across the country had been removed in the past year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;