(c) whether it is also a fact that the Railways had set a target to make the Railways free from unmanned railway level crossings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Elimination of Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) has been a top priority for Railways as level crossings are a safety hazard for both rail and road users, more so for road users. It has been planned to eliminate all UMLCs on Broad Gauge (BG) by closure/merger/subway and manning by March, 2019. All UMLCs on BG have now been eliminated except 28 UMLCs which have also been planned to be eliminated by March, 2019 by closure, merger, subway and manning.

Elimination of unmanned railway level crossings

2693. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned railway level crossings eliminated in the past four years, particularly in Maharashtra State alongwith the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken to eliminate unmanned railway level crossings in the country by 31 March, 2019?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) All the unmanned level crossings (UMLCs) on Broad Gauge (324 Nos.) in the State of Maharashtra have been eliminated.

(b) Elimination of Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) has been a top priority for Railways as level crossings are a safety hazard for both rail and road users more so for road users. It is submitted that all UMLCs on Broad Gauge (BG) have now been eliminated except 28 UMLCs which have also been planned to be eliminated by March, 2019 by closure, merger, subway or manning.

Electrification and doubling of railway line between Chennai and Madurai

2694. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of electrification and doubling of railway line from Chennai to Madurai has been completed;

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal to introduce more new trains on this route;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and