

(b) ₹1200 crore target has been fixed for advertisement and publicity under the Sundry other Earnings of Budget Estimate 2018-19.

(c) Branding of trains is nowhere related with sale of goods/products in train or platforms. All permitted/listed products of any manufacturer/service provider can be sold on the train or platform after following due process and procedures of the concerned policy guidelines.

Bullet train in Karnataka

601. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new train services introduced in Karnataka during the last three years, year-wise, along with the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is introducing high-speed Bullet trains in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether, in view of high rail traffic in Karnataka, Railways have considered introducing a Bullet train in the State; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways does not run train services on State-wise basis as railway network straddles across State boundaries. However, during the last three years, 27 pair of train services have been introduced serving the various stations located in the State of Karnataka as detailed below:

| Year | Number of trains (in pair) |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 2016-17 | 10 |
| 2017-18 | 9 |
| 2018-19 | 8 |

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India has sanctioned Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project with the estimated cost of ₹ 1,08,000 crore with technical and financial assistance of Government of Japan.

(d) and (e) Government has undertaken feasibility studies for High Speed Rail Corridors between Mumbai-Chennai and Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysuru passing through the State of Karnataka.

Introduction of passenger trains between India and Bangladesh

602. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to introduce passenger trains between India and Bangladesh through bordering rail stations of Rohanpur in Nawanganj district of Bangladesh and Singhabad in Malda district of West Bengal, like Maitree Express, for betterment of rail connectivity between the northern parts of both the countries, particularly when goods trains are presently plying through this route in a routine manner;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, there is no demand.

Chirimiri-Barwadih railway project

†603. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway projects underway in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the current status of Chirimiri -Barwadih project in Chhattisgarh;

(c) the estimated time and cost for completion of the said project; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to complete the Chirimiri-Barwadih project within the specified time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) At present, 08 new lines and 12 doubling projects falling fully/partly in Chhattisgarh have been taken up by Railway.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.