

(d) As on 01.04.2014, there were 8948 UMLCs on Broad Gauge (BG). It is submitted that as on 30.11.2018 all UMLCs on BG have now been eliminated barring 28 UMLCs.

Acquiring additional electric locomotives

1414. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to switch to a '100 per cent electrification policy' for the Railways;

(b) if so, the details of the Government's plans to do away with the existing diesel locomotives; and

(c) the details of the funds required to acquire up to 5000 additional electric locomotives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways has planned for 100% electrification of Broad Gauge (BG) Routes of Indian Railways.

(b) Consequent upon rapid pace of electrification, Indian Railways have taken up the task of converting some of its existing Diesel Locomotives into Electric Locomotives in a phased manner. Work related to conversion of 100 HHP Diesel Locomotives and 100 ALCO Diesel locomotives has been sanctioned under Pink Book 2018-19.

(c) Production/acquisition of 2778 number of electric locomotives to cater to increased demand due to electrification have been planned during 2018-19 to 2021-22.

Acquisition of locos is continuous process and production programme are issued according to the requirement arising out of increased electrification, condemnation of old locos etc.

Funds for acquisition of these locos are allocated on yearly basis in Annual Budget Estimates for material planning and future acquisitions. ₹ 5918.57 crores have been allocated in Budget 2018-19.

Running of high speed trains in the country

1415. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of rail tracks in the country, as on date;