

**Progress made on Eastern and Western Dedicated
Freight Corridor projects**

2335. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of work completed in Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor project by Railways;
- (b) the details of the funds spent so far in executing these projects;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any time by which the dedicated freight corridor project would be inaugurated;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) All contracts have been awarded for both Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC-1856 kms.) and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC-1504 kms.) except for system contracts for Khurja-Dadri and Khurja-Sahnewal sections of EDFC. Overall physical progress of both the DFCs is 63% and financial progress is 60%. Trial run for Khurja-Bhadan section (194 kms.) in EDFC and Madar-Kishangarh Balawas section (306 kms.) in WDFC has been carried out during the year 2018-19.

- (b) Total expenditure incurred upto 31.05.2019 is ₹ 49,210 crores.
- (c) and (d) Both the Corridors are targetted for completion in phases by December, 2021.
- (e) Does not arise.

Privatisation of train operations

2336. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal regarding privatisation of train operations is pending with the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of criteria adopted for selection of such trains and the procedure to be adopted for selecting private operators;
- (d) whether loss making trains are also proposed to be given for private operation; and