

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) No, Sir. After success of the prototype Train-18 which is running as Vande Bharat Express, ICF intends to manufacture more train-sets and is taking action for procurement of material.

(b) Vigilance Department undertakes routine preventive checks of various files including those pertaining to various contracts. In this regard, these files are also being scrutinized.

Promotion of rail tourism

873. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote rail tourism;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has identified any sector for promotion of rail tourism;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether any sector in Rajasthan has been identified for promotion of rail tourism; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) Indian Railways, in addition to regular passenger trains across its network with many of them also catering to tourist destinations, in association with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and selected State Tourism Development Corporations, operates special tourist trains like Luxury Tourist Trains, Buddhist special trains, Bharat Darshan trains, Aastha Circuits trains, State Special Tourists trains, charter trains etc. for promotion of tourism in the country.

(e) and (f) Luxury Tourist Train Palace on Wheels, operated in association with Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation, covers most of the important tourist destinations of Rajasthan in its itinerary promoting rail tourism in Rajasthan. In addition some of the itineraries of Maharajas' Express and Deccan Odyssey luxury tourist trains also cover important tourist destinations of Rajasthan.

Use of environment friendly technologies in railways

874. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways are one of the biggest consumers of energy in the country;