

(d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) At present, India is having passenger rail connectivity with two neighbouring countries having land connectivity out of six such countries, namely Bangladesh and Pakistan. Passenger services with Bangladesh are operational while passenger services with Pakistan are currently suspended since 16.08.2019.

There are two passenger rail connectivity projects with Nepal under execution namely Jogbani (India) to Biratnagar (Nepal) and Jayanagar (India) to Bardibas (Nepal).

The planning of passenger rail connectivity projects with neighbouring countries is a complex process, as it depends on number of works to be done by the associated neighbouring country. The execution of such projects can commence only after all associated issues are resolved.

Corporatization of coach factories

2194. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to corporatize coach factories like Rae Bareli Modern Rail Coach Factory and RCF units in Kapurthala and Chennai;

(b) if so, whether all the stakeholders like contractors, employees, State Governments have been consulted;

(c) the rationale behind corporatization of these coach factories;

(d) whether the interests of workers, both direct and indirect, including contract workers would be taken care of, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken to ensure that the career prospects and terms and conditions of workers are not altered to their detriment, with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Ministry of Railways have envisaged preparation of an action plan for corporatization of its Production Units including Rail Coach Factories.

- (b) Consultations with stakeholders in this process have commenced and will continue as part of this initiative.
- (c) Corporatization is expected to be attended with the following benefits:
- (i) State-of-the-art technology and modernization
 - (ii) Managerial autonomy
 - (iii) Superior operational efficiency due to better management practices
 - (iv) Export capability
 - (v) Increase MSME business
 - (vi) Employment generation
 - (vii) Better benefits to employees
 - (viii) Making India an international hub for rolling stock manufacturing
 - (ix) Attract investments.
- (d) Such issues are to be decided in consultation with stakeholders at an appropriate later stage.
- (e) Does not arise.

Corridors identified for allowing train operations by private players

2195. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Railway has identified 28 railway corridors in the country for roping in private players for trains operations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the 214 km rail line in Kerala has also been included in the said list; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) Ministry of Railways have constituted a Group of Secretaries (GoS) with a term of one year,