

action will be taken after receipt of detailed estimate of approaches for ROB at Anjhi Shahbad and consent of State Government in case of ROBs of Sandila Station.

### **Punctuality of trains**

2983. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the average percentage of trains running and reaching their destination on scheduled time;

(b) the year-wise percentage of punctuality performance of trains during the last five years; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the punctuality of trains is deteriorating continuously?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Indian Railways accord a very high priority for punctual running of trains. However, trains are delayed sometimes on account of four broad factors *viz.*, carrying out infrastructure and maintenance works, asset failures, external factors (such as fog, law and order issues etc) and congestion. The punctuality performance of Mail/Express train services during the last five years is given below:

Financial year (April-March)	Mail Express (in percent)
2015-16	77.51
2016-17	76.69
2017-18	71.39
2018-19	69.23
2019-20 (upto November)	75.70

(c) No, Sir. During the current year, the punctuality of Mail and Express trains has been 75.70 %, which is 7.51% higher than the previous year.

### **Ensuring safety of railway bridges**

2984. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there are more than 37,000 bridges with the Indian Railways which are more than 100 years old;