

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) 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 average delay per train (in hour) of Mail/Express services (on terminating basis) which lost punctuality during the last five years is given below:-

Financial year (April-March)	Average delay per train (in hour)
2015-16	0.53
2016-17	1.10
2017-18	0.82
2018-19	0.74
2019-20 (upto October)	0.49

(b) to (f) The monetary loss to the Railways is not calculated train-wise or on the basis of punctuality of trains. There is no proposal to conduct a study to calculate the loss per hour on account of delays. However, Indian Railways monitor and keep a close watch on a real-time basis on the punctual running of trains to mitigate loss due to late running of train services. Regular analysis and periodic reviews for Punctuality of passenger carrying trains are also undertaken rigorously at Divisional, Zonal and Railway Board levels by Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs), General Managers (GMs) and Railway Board Members and senior officers.

#### **Proposal for double-decker trains in Tamil Nadu**

1410. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to operate double-decker trains, besides the existing one, in the State of Tamil Nadu in Chennai Egmore-Tuticorin route;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has earmarked any fund for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (e) At present, there is no proposal to introduce double-decker service between Chennai Egmore and Tuticorin. However, presently two pairs of services namely 16129/16130 Chennai Egmore-Tuticorin Link Express and 12693/12694 Chennai Egmore-Tuticorin Pearl City Express are providing connectivity to the passengers of the sector. Further, Indian Railway's Production Unit, Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala has manufactured 10 double-decker coaches during the year 2019-20. Besides, introduction of train services is an on-going process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, resource availability, traffic justification etc.

**Linking of locomotives *via* ISRO satellites for tracking trains**

1411. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have linked its locomotives *via* ISRO satellites, making it easy to track trains and automatically feed the control charts about the train's arrival and departure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the new system will help Railways to modernise its control room and railway network for more efficient train movement across its network; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Real-time Train Information System (RTIS) is being installed on the locomotives for automatic acquisition of train movement data, including that of arrival, departure and run-through timings at the stations en route.

The control chart of trains hauled by RTIS enabled locomotives gets plotted automatically in the Control Office Application (COA) system already implemented in the control offices. RTIS also gives mid-section location updates, including the current speed of the train, with a periodicity of 30 seconds. The Train Controllers can now