

Haulage Charge principle. Accordingly, approval has been accorded to IRCTC for running two Tejas Class trains namely New Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express and Ahmedabad-Mumbai Central Tejas Express. Of these, 82501/82502 New Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express has commenced its operation wef 04.10.2019. As regards Parcel services, Comprehensive Parcel Leasing Policy and Policy for leasing of Parcel Cargo Express Trains have been further liberalized by way of (i) delegating powers to the zonal railways for revision of reserve price even downwardly, (ii) increasing duration of contracts from 3 years to 5 and 6 years, (iii) setting lease rates with fixed escalation @10% from 4th year onward, (iv) including bank guarantee as mode of security Deposit, (v) permitting leasing of parcel vans by ordinary passenger trains, (vi) permitting PCET with a minimum load of 15 parcel vans for six months, (vii) withdrawing distance restriction of 300 kms. for availing loading/unloading facilities at intermediate halts/stations, etc. Besides, a pilot project was launched to study the feasibility of using Railway's parcel service for e-tail players under which Amazon India has been provided 2.5 tonnes space in the SLR/Break Van under Guard's charge for loading/unloading of consignments in nominated trains.

Target of zero scrap balance by Indian railways

1415. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had fixed a target for zero scrap balance till March, 2018;

(b) if so, the details of whether this target was met successfully by Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The target was met successfully. During the financial year 2017-18, Railways with their concerted efforts, sold scrap worth ₹3,143 crores and balance available for disposal at the end of March, 2018 was valuing at approx ₹104 crores, which was equivalent to only 12 days average sales. Available scrap balance upto one month level is permissible at the end of financial year as the arisings and disposal of scrap material is a continuous process.

- (c) Does not arise.

Upgrading 204 stations under station redevelopment scheme

1416. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have prepared a blueprint for about 204 stations to get airport-like upgrade;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that these works would be undertaken as part of the Railways' ₹ 1 lakh crore Station Redevelopment programme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways through various agencies is undertaking techno-economic feasibility studies of Railway stations. Based on the outcome of these feasibility studies, stations are planned to be taken up for redevelopment in phases, especially the stations located on major cities, pilgrimage centres and important tourist destinations. The cost of station redevelopment project is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. Presently, work of redevelopment is in progress at Gandhinagar (Gujarat) and Habibganj (Bhopal) stations.

The facilities proposed in a redeveloped station include congestion free non-conflicting entry/exit to the station premises, segregation of arrival/departure of passengers, adequate concourse without overcrowding, integration of both sides of the city wherever feasible, integration with other modes of transport systems e.g. Bus, Metro, etc., user friendly international signage, well illuminated circulating area and sufficient provision for drop off, pick up & parking etc.

(c) and (d) It has been Railway's endeavor to redevelop/develop the railway stations by leveraging real estate development of sparable railway land and air space in and around the stations. The revenues realized from real estate development should be sufficient to cover the entire cost of station redevelopment after meeting the full expenditure on real estate development and Maintenance obligations.