

and conditions of working agencies/contractors etc. and all these factors vary from project to project and site to site and affect completion time and cost of project, which is finally worked out at completion stage. As such, no confirmed time line can be given for completion of these projects at this stage.

The details of Railway projects including allotment of fund and expenditure, project-wise are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website *i.e.* www.indianrailways.gov.in>Ministry of Railways >Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates Pink Book(Year) -Finance (Budget)>Railway>Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Promotion of Railway Station to world standard:

"Ministry of Railways has planned for redevelopment of railway stations through Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC), Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) and other Central Government agencies. Accordingly, IRSDC and RLDA are undertaking the techno-economic feasibility studies of stations, including in the State of Kerala. Based on the outcome of the feasibility studies, the stations are planned to be taken up for redevelopment, in phases, on various modes including PPP.

At present work of redevelopment is in advanced stage of progress at Habibganj (West Central Railway) railway station on PPP mode.

Privatisation of Railways

111. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry proposes to privatise the Railways; and
- (b) the details of different services which have been privatised so far, and the plans or proposal if any, to further privatise various other services?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal to privatise the operations of Railways. However, there is a proposal to outsource the commercial and on board services of a few trains and to permit private players to induct modern rakes to run trains on select routes with an objective to provide improved service delivery to passengers. The responsibility of train operations and safety certification rests with Indian Railways. Outsourcing of

certain services like station cleaning, pay and use toilets, retiring rooms, parking and platforms maintenance etc. is being done on need based manner to improve cleanliness and other services.

**MoU between Indian Railways and the Department
for International Development, United Kingdom**

772. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department for International Development, United Kingdom (UK);

(b) if so, the details of the MoU and how this would benefit Indian Railways in producing renewable energy for running the trains; and

(c) the details of the projects proposed under this MoU, and whether these renewable energy projects would be given to the private sector or the public sector enterprises?

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

(b) The area of co-operation of this MoU envisages to enable energy efficiency and energy self-sufficiency for Indian Railway. The MoU will benefit Indian Railway in field of energy planning, renewable energy planning and deployment including off shore wind and solar energy, energy storage, new energy technologies and off-grid renewable energy services.

(c) There is no such proposal for giving renewable energy projects to private sector or public sector under this MoU at this stage.

Unmanned level crossings

773. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of unmanned level crossings have increased in the country in the last five years; and

(b) if so, the zone-wise details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. All