[22 November, 2002] RAJYA SABHA

Model textbooks are prepared by the NCERT, who identifies suitable authors and experts for writing them.

Relief to Rajdhani Express accident victims

418. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recent accident of Rajdhani Express near Gaya in September last revealed some serious lapses with regard to relief and rescue operations for the accident victims;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) whether the reasons for the lapses have been identified;
- (d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to draw up a plan for remedial and corrective action for tackling such contingencies;
 - (e) whether there is a proposal to acquire helicopters for the purpose; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) to (d) Do not arise.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

Funds for rail projects in Tamil Nadu

- 419. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Railways is allocating very meagre amount for the ongoing railway projects in Tamil Nadu including HRTS of Gauge conversion as compared to other States;
- (b) if so, whether Government would allot sufficient funds to speed up the railway projects in the State in future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) During 2002-03, funds to various ongoing projects, under plan head new lines, gauge conversion, doubling and Railway Electrification, have been allocated State-wise based on a rational formula as mentioned in the Budget Speech. Funds to projects in Tamil Nadu have also been allocated accordingly.

Model railway stations

- 420. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the State-wise details of stations developed as model stations, as on date;
- (b) whether the Indian Railways have recently selected some railway stations to be upgraded as model stations with better amenities; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the fund allocations made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) A State-wise list of stations which have been developed as Model Station is given in the Statement. (See below)

- (b) No new station has been selected as Model Station in the last 6 months.
- (c) Do not arise.

Statement

'State-wise'list of stations developed as 'Model Stations'

Vijayawada, Guntakal, Rajahmundry,
Secunderabad, Visakhapatnam
Guwahati, Dibrugarh Town
Raipur
New Delhi