

[24 November, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

in second/sleeper class, so as to provide them necessary assistance during the journey.

Requirement of Coaches

622. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Zonal Railway-wise coaching stock requirement/availability figures are being maintained by Government;

(b) if so, what is the availability figure as against the total requirement of coaches and whether both match with each other; and

(c) if not, what steps are being taken to meet shortage of coaches in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Demand for New Gandhidham-Mumbai Train

623. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:

SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made to start a new Gandhidham-Mumbai train on the newly converted Wankaner-Morbi-Malsia-Gandhidham Broad Gauge line;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto;

(c) whether the preliminary survey has been ordered for the above demand; and

(d) if not, by when the survey is to be done and decision taken to run a new Passenger Train on the newly converted Gandhidham-Wankaner Broad Gauge line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Introduction of a train between Gandhidham and Mumbai via Malia Miyana- Morbi-Wankaner has been examined but not found feasible at present due to gauge variation. The conversion work on Morbi-Wankaner section is in progress. Even after completion of gauge conversion, running of additional Gandhidham-Mumbai train is not feasible due to severe terminal constraints in Mumbai area and line capacity constraints on Ahmedabad-Mumbai sector.