

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. An amount of Rs. 50 lakhs has been provided in Budget 1996-97 for this work

(b) and (c). The work had been included in the Budget to be taken up after the necessary clearances had been obtained. The work could not be started till Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs clearance was obtained. Now that the clearance has become available, the work is being taken up.

Setting up of Telecom Factory in Bihar

4107. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a telecom factory/industry in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) At present, there is no proposal under Government's consideration for setting up any new Telecom Factory as there is no requirement.

On-Going Rail Projects in Vidarbha Region

4108. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the on-going new rail projects in Vidarbha region;

(b) the project-wise cost and funds allocated, released and actually utilised during 1995-96 and provision of funds made during the current year particularly for Amravati-Narkhed new rail-link project;

(c) whether the provision of funds is inadequate for the completion of these projects, particularly Amravati-Narkhed new rail link—within the stipulated time-schedule;

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to ensure provision of adequate funds during the current year to accelerate tempo of execution of ongoing works and avoid cost and time over-run;

(e) the details of over-bridges projects pending clearance for Vidarbha region; and

(f) the steps taken for their clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The details of the projects, currently in progress in Vidarbha region, are as under :

Name	Cost	Outlays		Expenditure Upto March '96
		1995-96	1996-97	
(Rs. in Crores)				
NEW LINES				
1. Amravati-Narkhed	Rs. 182.77	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 5.49	Rs. 2.53
DOUBLING				
1. Sewagram (Wardha East)-Chitoda	Rs. 3.39	New project included in Budget, 1996-97.	Rs. 0.28	New project included in Budget, 1996-97.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) An amount of Rs. 5.49 crores has been provided for Amravati-Narkhed new line, which is considered adequate for the purpose, as only the land acquisition has been taken up at present.

(e) and (f). No projects of Over bridges in Vidarbha region are pending for clearance. However, 16 proposals under BOT (Build, Operate and Transfer) Scheme or "deposit works" are under various stages of planning by State Government.

New Coaches to Trains

4109. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any step has been taken to provide new coaches to trains in Kerala;

(b) if so, the number of coaches provided alongwith the names of trains; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). During 1996-97, 158 new coaches have been allotted to Southern Railway for conversion of 2625/2626 Kerala Express into air brake.

(c) Does not arise.

Constitution of Passenger Services Committee

4110. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Passenger Services Committee has been constituted:

(b) if so, the composition and terms of references thereof:

(c) the guidelines prescribed for selection/ appointment of Chairman and Members of the Committee;

(d) whether this Committee is different to the Passenger Amenities Committee;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether both these Committees have preference for Headquarters reservation quota on all trains and in all classes; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) The Chairman and Members are publicmen and as such, no eligibility criteria have been fixed for such appointments.

(d) and (e). The Passenger Amenities Committee has been constituted to monitor the passenger amenities provided at Railway Stations and on trains, whereas the Passenger Services Committee has been constituted to look into the various aspects of Catering/ Vending Stalls/Trolleys/Book Stalls/Tourist Informations Centres on Railway premises etc.

(f) and (g). The Chairman and Members of the Committees are given due preference for allotment of Emergency Quotas while travelling on duty. The requests sent by them sponsoring allotment of quota in favour of other persons are considered alongwith other such requests on merit and no special preference is given to them.

STATEMENT

The composition of Passenger Services Committee is as under :

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| (a) Shri Shiv Prasad Singh,
Advocate Hajipur, Distt.
Vaishali (Bihar) | Chairman |
| (b) Shri S.A. Hashmi
Jamiat Building,
Gali Qasim Jan,
Ballimaran,
Delhi | Member |
| (c) Shri R.K. Sisodia
V and PO Bhaura
Distt. Dhanbad,
Bihar | Member |
| (d) Smt. Swaraj Lamba,
No. 306, Building No. 34,
Adhishwar Apartments,
Ferozshah Road,
New Delhi | Member |
| (e) Shri Suryamani Bhigode
Joginagar, Post
Bhagwanpur,
Nagpur | Member |

The terms of reference of the Committee are as under :

- (i) To review the size, design and location of catering/vending stalls/trolleys and all others stalls like book stalls and other miscellaneous stalls PCO/ISD/STD booth, and recommend measures for standardisation of the design, size as well as the location so as to ensure that they not only match with the aesthetics of the station, but also take up minimum space and do not create hinderance to movement and circulation of passengers. They would specifically recommend steps to reduce congestion at important stations and platforms caused due to proliferation of such services and their installation in a haphazard manner.
- (ii) The Committee would study the problem of unauthorised hawking/vending at stations and in trains, identify vulnerable locations, sections and trains, recommend concrete measures to eliminate this menace.
- (iii) The Committee would also review the items which are presently permitted to be sold at these various stalls and suggest their standardisation. They would recommend items which would be included for sale to public without any risk to health and hygiene