

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing this.

SHRI ANANDGAJAPATI RAJU POOSAPATI: I am a regular Railway traveller and one day, the train went late and it had arrived early in the next morning. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether they will give any compensation for taking the train late, because, the passengers are losing money with regard to time and other factors. What is the compensation? Atleast you can refund the ticket, in case, they take the train beyond a particular time.

MR. SPEAKER : This is a very revolutionary demand. If the Minister wants to reply, he can reply to it.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : At the moment, we do not have any such proposal for refunding it.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you Sir, whether it is a fact that for callous and negligence attitude on the part of Railway staff, most of the trains run late. I would like to know whether any responsibility has been fixed on late running of the trains on any of the officials and what action has been taken against them? During the last one or two or three or six months, has any attempt been made in this regard, if not, what is the reaction of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): I do appreciate the anxiety of the hon. Members since all of us travel by trains. But for the information of the House I would like to give comparative figures of June and July 1991 of long distance trains in the matter of punctuality.

	<i>June 1991</i>	<i>July 1991</i>
2621 Tamil Nadu Express . . .	56 per cent	80 per cent
2622 Tamil Nadu Express . . .	23 per cent	77 per cent
2723 A.P. Express . . .	36 per cent	67 per cent
2724 A.P. Express . . .	40 per cent	71 per cent
2625 Kerala Mangla Exp. . .	10 per cent	74 per cent
2626 Kerala Mangla Expr. . .	36 per cent	93 per cent
2627 Karnataka Express . . .	46 per cent	100 per cent
2628 Karnataka Express . . .	53 per cent	87 per cent
2391 Maghadh Express . . .	zero per cent	45 per cent
2392 Magadh Express . . .	10 per cent	80 per cent

[Translation]

Modernisation of Railway Units in Ajmer City

***312. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of various railway units in Ajmer city and the arrangements made for their maintenance and safety;

I can go on reading out the figures like this. From this, I hope, the Members will appreciate that there is a marked improvement in the punctuality of the trains. In all the railways we have nominated senior officers not only to monitor the trains but also to look after the railway stations. For any failure in this regard, the specified designated officers will be responsible hereafter.

(b) the amount spent on modernisation of loco shed and carriage factories in Ajmer during the last three years and the modifications carried out accordingly;

(c) the nature of the works being performed at present in those units; and

(d) the number of workers and officers working there at present and the details of their profit and loss during the last three years?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Seven—consisting of Workshop and attached units. Maintenance of assets and safety of workers is by respective Railway departments i.e. Civil, Electrical, Mechanical etc.

(b) In the last three years Rs. 19.11 crores have been spent in expansion and improvements to Diesel Loco, Carriage and Wagon POH and support facilities.

(c) Overhaul of steam and diesel locomotives, coaches, wagons; repairs and manufacture of sub assemblies and components and other supporting activities required for Railway workshop operations.

(d) 10534 workers and 35 officers. The above Railway units function as service departments and there is no system of their separate profit & loss accountal.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, previously Ajmer was a very important station from the point of view of the Railways. Its Locoshed and Carriage factories were next in importance to Bombay only on the Western Railway. But this station has been neglected for the past some years. Previously the number of workers employed in the Locoshed and Carriage factories was high but it continues to come down now. Presently only 10,534

workers and 35 officials are left there. Will the hon. Minister tell me why this has happened?...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot make a speech. Ask your question.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, my question is what are the reasons for the continuous disregard of Ajmer city by the Railways which is leading to constant decline in the Locoshed and Carriage Factories situated there?

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, whatever personnel are required that have been employed. There is no shortage of the workers, as hon. Member has expressed.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was stated that Rs. 19.11 crore have been spent. I want to know how much funds have been allocated this year and for the next two years for the expansion of Loco and Carriage facilities and in what way these facilities would be expanded?

MR. SPEAKER: The amount of funds allocated this year can be seen in this year's Budget. He cannot say anything now about the amount of funds to be allocated next year.

[English]

I am disallowing it.

Development of Oil Fields

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*314. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI LOKANATH CHAUDHURY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Information on petro-