

1	2	3
Tamil Nadu	4026.8	4477.2
Tripura	275.7	275.7
Uttar Pradesh	20273.0	20150.1
West Bengal	6530.9	6412.6
A & N Island	14.0	14.0
D & N Haveli	18.7	18.7
Daman & Diu	3.3	3.3
Delhi	46.1	46.1
Pondicherry	32.4	32.4
All India	122753.8	123548.1

Passenger Amenities on Trivandrum Railway Station

3157. SHRI SURESH KODIKUNNIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide more passenger amenities at the Trivandrum Central Railway Station; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A work for provision of additional terminal facilities at a cost of Rs. 2.65 crore has been included in the Budget 1996-97.

Electrification of Rail Section

3158. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take up electrification of Krishnanagar-Lalgola section of the Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). there is no proposal to electrify Krishnanagar-Lalgola section of Eastern Railway over which the Traffic density is low at present and does not qualify for electrification.

Facilities to Passengers

3159. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the steps proposed to be taken to improve facilities to passengers at the Railways Stations of Bhongir, Aler, Bibinagar, Nalgonda, Chityal, Miryalguda in Nalgonda District (SC Railway) recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) Improvements to facilities and amenities at railway stations is a continuous process which is undertaken by including suitable works in the Annual Works programme of the Railway and is dependent on the volume of traffic handled at a station, the availability of funds and relative priorities.

Accordingly, works of provision of a cover over the platforms at Bhongir and Bibinagar; and paving of the platform at Bhongir; and raising of the height of the second platform at Nalgonda and the extension of the platform at Aler have been taken up.

Gauge Conversion in Karnataka

3160. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of proposals for conversion of Railway lines from meter gauge to broad gauge in Karnataka are awaiting clearance from the Government;

(b) if so, the details of each project alongwith the allocation of funds for each of the projects separately;

(c) whether any new projects for conversion have been undertaken in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof and criteria being adopted for their selection; and

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. However, work on Mysore-Hassan line which was included in Budget 95-96 has been taken up now after obtaining approval of CCEA.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) This project would be completed by 31.5.97.

Halt at Sultanganj

3161. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the large number of pilgrims visit Deoghar (Bihar) and they start their journey on foot from a railway station called 'Sultanganj' in Bihar;

(b) whether in this context a suggestion has been made that the Brahmaputra Express train may have brief halt at Sultanganj for the facility of the pilgrims; and

(c) if so, whether the railways would examine and approve of the suggestion?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Temporary stoppage of 4055/4056 Brahamputra Mail has been provided at Sultanganj from 14.8.96 to 31.8.96.

Bomb Blast

3162. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether bomb was blasted in bogie No. 830 C/A of N.E. Express (Gauhati-Delhi) on May 16, 1996;

(b) if so, any enquiry was conducted to find out the motives behind the bomb blast;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to avoid such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). According to information available, an explosion took place in a coach attached to 5621 Up NE Express near East Cabin, Aligarh on 16.5.1996 at about 1845 hrs. Preliminary enquiries indicate that the explosion was probably caused by a hand grenade carried by a BSF personnel and was accidental in nature. GRP, Aligarh has registered a case under sections 304, 324 IPC, 3 Explosive Act and 151 Railway Act. Further enquiries are in progress.

[Translation]

Repairing and Manufacturing of Coaches

3163. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether work regarding the repairing of coaches and manufacturing of wagons in Izzatnagar factory is in progress;

(b) if so, the details of work undertaken during the last three years;

(c) whether the strength of the employees and progress of work is constantly declining in the said factory;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government have decided to close down this factory; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The work undertaken in Izzatnagar workshop is of repair of M.G. wagons and coaches. This workshop is not undertaking wagon manufacture.

(b) Details of work undertaken for last three year :-

	93-94	94-95	95-96
POH			
(i) Wagon (MG)	1640	1200	1170
(ii) Coaches (MG)	1380	1390	1080

(c) and (d). The reduction in the number of employees is to the extent of normal retirements in Izzatnagar workshop and lower arising of M.G. stock POH workload due to gauge conversion. However, to compensate this, manufacture of M.G. DMUs and Rail Buses are being undertaken. There is no plan, at present, to close down this workshop.

(e) Does not arise.

Extension of Shatabdi Express

3164. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for extension of New Delhi-Chandigarh bound Shatabdi Express upto Kalka;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be extended in view of the promotion of Tourism; and

(c) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). Some representations were received in this regard. These were examined but not found feasible due to operational and resources constraints.

[English]

Oil Spill in Haldi River

3165. SHRI. MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge quantity of diesel leaked from a tanker into the Haldi river in West Bengal, in May, 1996 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the causes of the oil leak;

(c) the extent to which this oil spill has endangered the flora and fauna of the Haldi river;

(d) whether any inquiry has been held to fix responsibility for the negligence in the matter;

(e) if so, the findings thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). There was an incident of spillage of about 358 Kilolitres of high-speed diesel oil