

(d) No compensation has been paid so far. However, ex gratia payment has been made in several cases where situation so demanded.

(e) The steps taken to avoid such accidents include removal and rehabilitation of overaged assets like track, bridges rolling stock , etc. Intensive inspections are also carried out for signalling and telecom gears, maintenance depots of wagons and locomotives and quality of out turn the workshops. Staff in operational categories are given intensive training and their performances are monitored. In addition, inspect and their performances are monitored. In addition, inspection of track and examination of coaches, wagons and locomotives have been intensified. Ultrasonic testing of rails and axles is being resorted to identify fractures. Drivers are being monitored and counselled with regard to their driving techniques.

Passenger Amenities

268. PROF. SUSAN CHAKRABORTY:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the actual expenditure on passenger amenities have been reduced during the last three years;

(b) the basis amenities provided at Regular Stations and at halt Stations by the Railways:

(c) whether the Government propose to provide any additional amenities.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) (a)
No, Sir

(b) Following basic amenities are provided at regular and halt stations:

Regular Stations: Suitable platforms, waiting hall, booking arrangements,

adequate seating arrangements, suitable lighting arrangements, drinking water, latrines and shady trees.

Halt Station: A rail level platform, a waiting shed-cum-booking office, lighting arrangements where trains stop at night and shady trees.

(c) and (d): , Additional amenities which include improved lighting arrangements, cover over platforms, foot over bridges, bath rooms, water coolers, retiring rooms, upper class waiting rooms, enquiry officers, refreshment dooms, train indication boards raising of platform, computerised reservations, etc. are also provided subject to availability of funds. volume of passenger traffic handled and relative importance of various stations.

Calcutta Metro.

269. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the remaining work on metro Railway in Calcutta is expected to be completed;

(b) whether the Metro Railway is running in loss;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to complete the project as per schedule and to make it economically viable?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) (a)
By 1995. subject to availability of adequate funds in the coming years and acquiring and handing over of the remaining plots of land by the state Government of West Bengal.