

Agreement between Indian Railways and R.T.D.C.

[English]

*220. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement have been signed between Indian Railways and Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation regarding the train palace on wheels running on broad gauge line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the share of R.T.D.C. in the agreement;

(d) the amount of profit earned/loss suffered by this train during the first year of its operation;

(e) whether any change is proposed to be made in the existing route of train; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) The gross earnings are Rs.788.88 lakhs. The figures of profit/loss are under compilation.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Gauge Conversion

1881. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the gauge conversion works in Mathura- Achhnera and Bandikui-Agra rail lines are likely to be started;

(b) the time by which the gauge conversion works on above lines are likely to be completed;

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard;

(d) whether the Government are considering any scheme to remove the difficulties being faced by the passengers and daily commuters due to the delay in conversion of the said rail lines;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The works will be started and completed during the 9th Five Year Plan.

(c) These works were planned under BOLT. There has been delay owing to unsatisfactory response to the BOLT offer.

(d) and (e). Normal MG services are operating on these sections.

(f) Does not arise.

Use of Railway Wagons

1882. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "CAG indicts railways for wagon use" appearing in the Times of India dated July 30, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c). Comptroller and Auditor General of India in their report for the year 1995 has commented upon the wagon utilisation on Indian Railways for the period 1990-91 to 1993-94. During this period the wagon utilisation had shown less improvement due to poor offering of traffic. However, with effect from 1994-95 and during 1995-96, with upsurge in the economy, most of the wagon utilisation figures have shown marked improvement as will be evident from the table below:

Year	NTKM/ Wagon Day	% Wagon Variation	Wagon/Km. Variation	%
1990-91	1407		110.5	
1991-92	1439	2.3	113.2	3.5
1992-93	1457	1.2	116.4	2.4
1993-94	1506	3.3	125.0	7.4
1994-95	1590	5.6	138.5	10.8
1995-96	1754	10.3	148.1	6.9
Year	Wagon Turnaround		% Variation	
1990-91	11.50			
1991-92	11.10		3.5	
1992-93	10.83		2.4	
1993-94	10.59		2.2	
1994-95	9.89		6.6	
1995-96	9.07		8.3	

The comparative details for the years 1991-92 vis a vis 1995-96 in respect of wagon utilisation indices, viz., NTKM/per wagon day wagon kilometre per wagon day and wagon turn around for Central, North Eastern, Northeast Frontier, Southern, South Central & South