

Year	Net Tonne Kilometre/ wagon day (Broad Gauge)	Wagon Kilometre/ wagon day (Broad Gauge)
1990-91	1407	110.5
1991-92	1439	113.2
1992-93	1457	116.4
1993-94	1506	125.0
1994-95	1591	138.0
1995-96	1792	151.2
1996-97	1840	157.8

Net tonne kilometre/wagon day has increased by 30.7% between 1990-91 and 1996-97 while wagon kilometre/wagon day has gone up by 43% during the same period indicating significant improvement in wagon utilisation and wagon mobility. Therefore, the question of loss does not arise.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Gauge Conversion of Khagaria-Samastipur Rail Line

3102: PROF AJIT KUMAR MEHTA
SHRI BIJOY KUMAR BIJOY
SHRI HIRA LAL ROY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 2293 on June 11, 1998 regarding Gauge Conversion of Khagaria-Samastipur Rail line and state

(a) whether the necessary clearance has been obtained;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay alongwith other formalities required by the Government for expeditious undertaking of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The survey had not been completed when the work was included in the Budget. Subsequently, the survey report has been received, finalised and is being sent to the Planning Commission for their appraisal. Once this has been done by them then further consideration of the project

by the Expanded Board and thereafter by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs will become possible.

Additions to Fleet

3103. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to phase out old aircraft and inoperative Helicopters and add new aircraft to meet growing traffic load on various routes both domestic and international; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of new aircrafts added by Indian Airlines and Air India during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Expansion/renewal of fleet by the airlines is a continuing exercise and depends on various factors, the most important ones being the resources of the airlines, traffic requirements, suitability of the aircraft type and viability of operations of various sectors/routes.

Air India has inducted two B747-400 aircraft into its fleet during the last three years.

Indian Airlines has not inducted any new aircraft into its fleet during the last three years.

Derailments

3104. SHRI S. SUDHAKAR REDDY :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether two incident of derailments were occurred one of Hyderabad-Narsapur Express near Sattenapalli of Guntur District on October 8, 1988 and another of Intercity Express between Hyderabad and Guntur on October 15, 1998;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(c) the number of persons killed/injured therein;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of two derailments are as under :-

(1) There was a derailment of 7056 Hyderabad-Narsapur Express on 8.10.1998 between Sattenapalli-Pedakurapadu stations on Vijayawada Division of South Central Railway.

As per preliminary finding of Commissioner of Railway Safety, the cause of accident is "Sabotage".

- (2) On 15 October, 1998 there was another derailment of 7006 Intercity Express between Srirampuram-Nalgonda stations on Secunderabad Division of South Central Railway. This accident occurred due to human failure.

(c) (1) Number of persons killed/injured in derailment of 7056 Express which occurred on October 8, 1998

Killed = 11 Injured = 37

(2) Number of persons killed/injured in derailment of 7006 Intercity Express which occurred on October 15, 1998 :

Killed = Nil Injured = 12

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. (i) In the accident of 7056 Express dated 8.10.1998, the enquiry is being conducted by Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle. (ii) In the accident of 7006 Intercity Express, the inquiry is being conducted by a group of Senior Administrative Grade Officers of the Indian Railways.

National Rent Control Legislation

3105. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to enact National Rent Control Legislation to stimulate investment in rental housing in the country as proposed in its National Housing Policy, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such legislation is likely to come?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of Wagon Repair Centre

3106. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government consider to set up a Wagon Repair Centre at Kantabangi as the locoshed has been shifted from Kantabangi to Tittlagarh;

(b) if so, the time by which it likely to be set up;

(c) if not, whether the Government consider for returning the land to the donor, as per the agreement between the donor and the railways; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The land has been utilised for an Engineering Training Centre which is already functional and an Operating Training Centre is proposed to be set up there.

[Translation]

Audit of National Airport Authority of India

3107 SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the accounts of the National Airport Authority of India have not been audited for more than last four years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken for auditing the accounts of all the departments of the above authority and laying the conclusions thereof on the floor of the House?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Audited Accounts of National Airports Authority, upto 1994-95 have been laid before Parliament.

Airports Authority of India (AAI) has been formed by the merger of erstwhile National Airports Authority and International Airports Authority of India from 1-4-1995 and Audited Accounts of AAI upto 1996-97 have been laid before Parliament.

[English]

Diversion of Flights to Ahmedabad

3108. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines has decided to divert some more flights to Ahmedabad Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?