

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:304  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2009  
OPENING OF NEW RAILWAY STATIONS  
Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the criteria for opening of new railway stations in the country;
- (b) the number of new railway stations opened during the last three years;
- (c) whether demands have been received for opening of new railway stations during the last three years; and
- (d) the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 304 BY SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL AND SHRI SUDARSHAN BIHAGAT TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 10.12.2009 REGARDING OPENING OF NEW RAILWAY STATIONS.

(a): New stations generally are opened during the commissioning of a new railway line. On existing lines, opening of a new block station depends on operational requirement, technical feasibility, need for providing connectivity to freight sidings etc. Halt stations are opened on public demand, if found financially viable and feasible from operating and engineering point of view.

(b): 156 stations have been opened during the last 3 years which include 81 halt stations and 75 block stations.

(c) & (d): Yes madam. Demands for opening of 232 new stations were received during the last 3 years of which 39 halt stations and 9 block stations have been sanctioned. A list of the sanctioned stations is attached as Appendix.