GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1981 ANSWERED ON:09.03.2015 INVESTMENT IN RAILWAYS

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have been emphasising on investing more funds in railways for its modernisation and for providing passenger amenities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways propose to bring Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) or Public Private Partnership (PPP) in Railways;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Railways have prepared any guidelines in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the number of FDI proposals have been received in this regard and the sectors from which the said funds are likely to be mobilised along with the total funds likely to be mobilised; and (g) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Modernisation of existing assets and improvement in passenger amenities is an important and ongoing process on Indian Railways. The areas include track and bridges, mechanized maintenance of track, automatic signalling, higher capacity wagons, electrification, new generation diesel and electric locomotives, green toilets on passenger trains, modernisation of stations and terminals, quality of bed linen, provision of 24X7 helpline, ticketing, catering services, entertainment facilities on-board, enhancement of train capacity, Wi-Fi facility at stations etc.
- (c) to (e): Yes, Madam. Ministry of Railways has issued Sectoral guidelines for Domestic /Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in November, 2014. The following areas have been identified for private/Foreign Direct Investment:
- (i) Suburban corridors through Public Private Partnership (PPP);
- (ii) High speed train projects;
- (iii) Dedicated freight lines;
- (iv) Rolling stock including trains sets and locomotive/coaches manufacturing and maintenance facilities;
- (v) Railway electrification;
- (vi) Signaling system;
- (vii) Freight terminals;
- (viii) Passenger terminals;
- (ix) Testing facilities and laboratories;
- (x) Non- Conventional Sources of Energy;
- (xi) Railway Technical Training Institutes;
- (xii) Concessioning of standalone passenger corridors (branch lines, hill railways etc.);
- (xiii) Mechanized Laundry;

- (xiv) Rolling stock procurement;
- (xv) Bio-toilets;
- (xvi) Technological solutions for manned and unmanned level crossings;
- (xvii) Technological solutions to improve Safety and reduce accidents.

Also a Participative Policy for rail connectivity and capacity augmentation was issued on 10.12.2012 which provides five models for building rail connectivity.

(f) & (g): No specific investment proposal has been received since the opening of FDI in Rail Transport. However, approximately `10,000 crore private investment have been committed for 19 projects under different participative models.

An Investors Meet was organised on 5th December, 2014 and discussions with potential investors have been held to attract private investments.