

an>

Title: Regarding late running of Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains.

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAG): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I thank you for permitting me to mention the following matter in the Zero Hour.

With deep regret, I inform the House that Indian Railways, being the world's largest public railway network, has now become the world's first late running network in the country. During the last six months, a number of trains has reached the destination on their scheduled time though they have departed on scheduled time. The number of trains has increased; routes have been extended; fares have been hiked but security, and punctuality and cleanliness of trains have been neglected.

I would like to inform the House that CAG states that the Zones are reporting wrong data in order to show that 95 per cent of the trains were punctual. In addition, the CAG also reports that trains were late on 54 occasions while prestigious trains like Rajdhani Express were late on 53 occasions. Thus, there is a need to take measures and report punctuality from the passengers' perspectives.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister, through you, to inform the House about the last three months statistics of Rajdhani Express and Shatabdi Express and the detailed causes for late running of the trains and ensure punctuality, cleanliness and security of the passengers and goods trains.