

(b) if so, the details including estimated cost thereof, project-wise;

(c) the names of the projects for which request for early implementation have been made from the respective Divisional Railway Managers of Vadodara, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Ratlam and Ajmer,

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be approved;

(e) the details of new Railway lines laid in Gujarat during the last three years till date; and

(f) the expenditure incurred thereon during the above period?

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) Gauge conversion of Palanpur-Gandhidham-Kandla Port (313km) included in the Budget 1998-99 is awaiting clearance. Estimated cost of this project is Rs. 318 crores.

(c) The planning process in the Railways involves formulation of proposals at the Divisional level. These proposals, after scrutiny by the Zonal railways are sent to the Railway Board. Railway Board, taking a total view of the Railway's resource constraints and the relative priority of the projects, processes the proposal for inclusion in the Budget.

(d) Necessary action has already been initiated to obtain requisite clearances from Planning Commission and Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

(e) No new railway lines were laid in Gujarat during the last three years till date.

(f) Does not arise.

Introduction of Smart Card by Railways

5252. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to introduce 'Smart Card' for monthly season ticket; and

(b) if so, the details 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) No, Sir. At present, no such proposal is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Derailment of Mandor Express

5253. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether seventeen coaches of Jodhpur bound Mandor Express had derailed between Harsoli and Ajarka station in Alwar district on March 25, 1998;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in the said incident;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

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) to (c) Yes, Sir. The accident is being inquired into by a Committee of Senior Administrative Grade Officers and the report of inquiry Committee is awaited.

(d) Follow up action to check recurrence of such incidents will be taken after completion of inquiry report.

DDA Land to Private Developers

5254. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government decided to handover the development work of DDA lands to private sector;

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

(c) whether thousands of DDA employees are likely to become redundant following this decision of the Government; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Rush in Bihar Bound Trains

5255. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: