

The shortfall was mainly due to the low system demand, delay in the stabilisation of newly commissioned units, inadequate supply and unsatisfactory quality of coal etc.

Replacement of Diesel Traction with Electric Traction

2014. SHRI NAKUL NAYAK: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps for the replacement of diesel traction with electric traction;

(b) if so, the progress made in different zones in that direction so far; and

(c) the specific steps taken in that direction in the South-Eastern Railway as on 31 March, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir, only on such sections where electrification is justified.

(b) Route kilometres electrified in different zones, as on 31.3.90, are as under:—

<i>Railways</i>		<i>RKMS. Electrified</i>
1	2	3
1.	Central	1859
2.	Eastern	1259
3.	Northern	945
4.	Southern	646
5.	South Central	891
6.	South Eastern	2158
7.	Western	1494
8.	North Eastern	—
9.	North-East Frontier	—
Total		9252

(c) South Eastern has the highest electrified route kilometres as compared to any other zonal railway.

[*Translation*]

Bilada-Ber and Medta City-Ajmer Railway Line

2015. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct and open for traffic railway lines from Bilada to Ber and Medta City to Ajmer;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). A Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for construction of a new M.G. line between Bilara and Bar was carried out in 1983. The survey revealed poor traffic prospects as such no action could be taken to take up the construction.

The survey done in 1983 has been approved for updating.

A reconnaissance Engineering Survey for M.G. line between Ajmer and Merta Road via Pushkar was conducted in 1986. The survey revealed poor traffic prospects as such the project was shelved.

[English]

Harassment of Passengers by Ticket Checking Staff

2016. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received from passengers of South bound trains about harassment by ticket checking staff in the name of checking ticketless travellers during the last one year;

(b) whether the number of such cases are on the increase in the Kerala Express;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to check this practice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) While such statistics are not maintained, some complaints have been received recently.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Suitable deterrent action is taken against erring Railway staff in the proven cases of misdemeanour.

Discovery of Oil in Midnapur District, West Bengal

2017. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any prospect of finding oil in certain areas of Sabang P.S., in Midnapur district of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Exploratory activity including drilling is in progress in the area. It is too early to comment on the prospects of finding oil/gas.

(b) Seismic data has been acquired in and around Sabang area and based on the study of this data, an exploratory location Chandkur-1 has been drilled and abandoned. One more location Chandkur-B is identified for drilling.

[Translation]

Short Supply of LPG Cylinders by Bottling Plants in Madhya Pradesh

2018. SHRI SURAJ BHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding supply of short weight cylinders by LPG refill plant situated in Madhya Pradesh for the last several days;

(b) whether out of 300 LPG cylinders,