

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 918
ANSWERED ON 09.02.2024

MOU WITH SWISS COUNTERPART TO BOOST RAILWAY EFFICIENCY

918 SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Swiss counterpart for boosting operational efficiency of Indian railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any measures to collaborate with Swiss counterpart for an efficient use of the existing technology especially in the areas of hub and spoke model and advanced tunneling technology; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b) : An Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC) of the Swiss Confederation and the Ministry of Railways of India for Technological Cooperation in Railway Sector is under consideration. The areas of cooperation in MoU are as below:-

- (i) Rolling stock ;
- (ii) Railway infrastructure;
- (iii) Rail safety;
- (iv) Train scheduling and operation improvement;
- (v) Multimodal transport;
- (vi) New technologies and innovation in the rail sector; and
- (vii) Any other area jointly identified by the Participants.

(c) and (d): Indian Railways Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) have collaborated with Swiss firms in the field of tunnelling in various projects such as:-

- (i) Rishikesh-Karna Prayag New Railway Line Project (125Km) by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL).
- (ii) Udampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link Project by Indian Railway Construction International Limited (IRCON).