

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 186
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.11.2016**

SPEED OF TRAINS

186. SHRI BHARAT SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is working on some plan to increase the speed of the trains in the country;**
- (b) if so, the steps taken so far to increase the speed of various trains; and**
- (c) the details of the proposed plan to run bullet trains between New Delhi and Varanasi?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The following steps have been initiated for increasing the speed of the trains:

- Gatiman Express at 160 kmph (kilometre per hour) has been introduced on 05.04.2016 from Hazrat Nizamuddin to Agra Cantt.**
- Feasibility study of Chennai – Bengaluru – Mysore Corridor for raising the speed of passenger trains to 160 kilometre per hour at their cost has been entrusted to China Railway.**
- Feasibility – cum - implementation study of New Delhi – Chandigarh Corridor for raising the speed of passenger trains to 200 kmph on**

50:50 percent cost sharing basis has been entrusted to French Railway.

- **A protocol has been signed with Russian Railways on 15th October, 2016 for feasibility-cum-implementation study of Nagpur-Secunderabad Corridor for raising the speed of passenger trains to 200 kmph.**
- **Mission Raftar has been announced in the Railway Budget 2016-17. The mission envisages the target of doubling of average speed of freight trains and increasing the average speed of all passenger trains by 25 kmph in the next five years. A cross functional mission directorate has been created in Railway Board for this purpose.**

(c): At present, there is no such proposal under consideration in the Ministry. Feasibility study for Delhi-Kolkata high speed corridor via Varanasi has been assigned to Consortium of M/s Ineco Typsa and Intercontinental Consultants.
