GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 524 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017

OUTSOURCING HERITAGE CONSERVATION

524. DR. P. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways plans to outsource heritage conservation activities and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether heritage conservation has suffered criminal neglect in past decades on account of official apathy of such tasks by the Railways and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether sensitivities on heritage conservation have been low while the Railways have also lacked funds and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the said outsourced heritage conservation activities would be entrusted to an independent and registered society comprising various stakeholders including rail enthusiasts and entrepreneurs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

- (a): Railways do not have any plan to outsource conservation activities at present.
- (b): No, Madam.
- (c): Railways have been preserving its century old heritage with full commitment and sensitivity. Adequate financial resources have also been made available for undertaking Rail heritage preservation/conservation activities.
- (d)&(e): No, Madam. There is no such proposal.