

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1902
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.03.2018**

HERITAGE PRESERVATION IN RAILWAYS

**1902. SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
DR. PRITAM GOPINATHMUNDE:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to take certain reformative measures to promote heritage preservation in Indian Railways and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Railway board is now preparing to launch a special drive to identify various heritage items or artefacts that are currently lying unnoticed or overlooked at different locations and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there is a proposal for the revival of Steam Locomotives and run regular time-tabled trains on Steam Traction and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal for maintenance of railways in hilly areas and bringing them to world standard to promote tourism; and**
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

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

(a) Ministry of Railways have initiated several reformative measures to promote heritage preservation in Indian Railways. These include

launching of a special drive to identify various heritage items/artefacts that are currently lying unnoticed at different locations; open a logbook of all major events, both at Zonal Railways and National Rail Museum to record the timelines of Railways history, revival of Steam Locomotives; upkeeping Hill Railways, strengthening Railway museums, conservation of built heritage etc.

(b) Ministry of Railways have directed all Zonal Railways/Production Units to launch a special drive between 1-15 March, 2018 for identification and preservation of Railway heritage assets like buildings, bridges, rolling stocks, documents, photographs, artefacts, equipments, clocks, benches etc.

(c) Ministry of Railways has made a specific provision in the budget outlay for 2018-19 for revival of steam locomotives including restoration and procurement of spares. There is no proposal at present to run regular time-tabled trains on Steam Traction.

(d) & (e). Ministry of Railways have launched a month long drive to bring the five hill railways of India [Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR), Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR), Kalka Shimla Railway (KSR), Matheran Light Railway (MLR) and Kangra Valley Railway (KVR)] in immaculate state for promoting tourism.
