

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5461  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2018**

**MODERNISATION OF RAILWAYS**

**5461. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :**

- (a) whether the Government has developed time bound action plan for the next five years in the field of modernisation of Railways i.e. speed, safety, security at railway stations along with passengers and catering facilities;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the long term requirement of coaches and additional coaches required by the Indian Railways and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the details regarding the rail factories producing the railway wagons and cast wheels for railway wagons in the country?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

**(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5461 BY SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 28.03.2018 REGARDING MODERNISATION OF RAILWAYS**

**(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam. With a view to increasing speed of trains in Indian Railways, 'Mission Raftaar' has been announced in the Railway Budget 2016-17. The mission envisages a target of doubling of average speed of freight trains and increasing the average speed of all non-suburban passenger trains by 25 kmph.**

**Action plan for improving mobility and increasing average speed includes removal of speed restrictions, construction of road over bridges (ROBs) and road under bridges (RUBs), right powering of trains, introduction of twin-pipe in wagons and replacement of conventional trains by Main Line Electric Multiple unit(MEMU) trains and Diesel Electric Multiple Unit(DEMU) trains.**

**All technologies, maintenance procedure & processes in connection with safe running of train are introduced after thorough examination from safety point of view. Maintenance procedures are constantly being upgraded/modified with the change in technologies. Indian Railways have adopted or are continuously introducing new technologies such as electronic interlocking at all interlocked Broad Gauge stations, Automatic Train Protection(ATP) system based on European Train Control System Level 2 (ETCS-L2) in the entire G route, Train Management System covering all 4 Metros, Remote**

**Diagnostics and Predictive Maintenance, Track Circuiting at station, Use of 60 Kg rails and Pre Stressed Concrete Sleepers(PSC), Long Welded Rail Panels(LWR), Thick Web Switches in turnouts, Digital Ultrasonic Flaw Detection Machines for rail defects. A policy decision has been taken to manufacture only Linke Hoffman Bushce(LHB) type coaches from 2018-19 onwards. All electric locomotives have been provided with Vigilance Control Devices(VCD) which helps in checking the alertness of Loco Pilots(LPs). Training to the Loco Pilots is being imparted on Simulators for improving reaction time and driving skills.**

**Security has been identified as one of the priority areas by Railways for strengthening and upgradation. Measures initiated by the Railways, through the Railway Protection Force(RPF), to strengthen security of passengers include escorting of about 2500 important Mail/Express trains daily (in addition to escorting of 2200 important Mail/Express trains by the Government Railway Police(GRP)], surveillance through close circuit television(CCTV) cameras provided at about 394 railway stations, rendering assistance to passengers through 182 Security Helpline, prosecution of offenders(unauthorized vendors/hawkers, touts, trespassers, nuisance, entering ladies reserved compartments, etc.) under relevant provisions of the Railways Act, etc.**

**It is proposed to install Close Circuit Television(CCTV) Cameras to strengthen surveillance mechanism and to ensure safety and**

**security of passengers at railway stations and trains over entire network of Indian Railways. Funding is contemplated from Nirbhaya Fund of Government of India.**

**To further augment security of passengers with due emphasis upon security of women passengers, upgradation of All India Security Helpline 182 has been envisaged at an approved cost of `5.59 crore. Operationalisation of single Security App has also been envisaged to provide round the clock security related assistance to women passengers.**

**State Level Security Committee for Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State / Union Territories(UTs) under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/Commissioner of States /UTs for regular monitoring and review of security arrangement for the Railway.**

**All out efforts are being made by the Railways, through the RPF, to provide security to passengers in coordination with GRPs of respective States, who are primarily responsible for registering of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains.**

**To provide pure and healthy food to passengers, a new Catering Policy has been issued on 27th February, 2017. As per Catering Policy 2017, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) has been mandated to carry out the unbundling by**

**creating distinction primarily between food preparation and food distribution on trains. In order to upgrade quality of food preparation, IRCTC is to set up new kitchens and upgrade existing ones. Further, detailed instructions/guidelines have been issued to the Zonal Railways for conducting joint inspections by Medical, Commercial and concerned infrastructure maintenance departments to inspect each and every catering unit(mobile and static) including base kitchens/cell kitchens on all Railway Divisions/Zones. Apart from this, regular and surprise inspections are done by Food Safety Officers, Designated Officers and Joint Food Safety Commissioners. Further steps being taken to ensure that good quality and hygienic food is served to the passengers inter-alia includes (i) Optional Catering Service has been introduced as a pilot project, on 32 Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto trains under the management of IRCTC, (ii) Introduction of station based E-catering for widening the range of options available to passengers for ordering food of their choice, (iii) Pilot for introduction of precooked food('ready to eat' meals) in the range of options available to passengers, (iv) Operation of Centralized Catering Service Monitoring Cell(CSMC) (toll free number 1800-111-321) for prompt redressal of passenger grievances relating to the catering activities and real time assistance to travelling public, (v) Operation of all India Helpline(No. 138) for rail users to lodge complaints/suggestions regarding food and catering services, (vi) A Twitter handle @ IRCATERING has also been made operational to cater to the complaints/suggestions with regard to catering**

**services.**

**(c) : Assessment of long-term requirement of coaches is an ongoing exercise.**

**(d) : The Rail Factories producing the Railway wagons and the type of wagons that are being produced are as under :-**

- 1 Braithwaite & Company Limited : BOXNHL, BOXNS, BOSTHSM2, BCNHL, BRN 22.9, BOBRNHSM1**
- 2 Burn Standard Company Limited : BOXNHLSM1, BOXNS, BOSTHSM2, BCNHL, BRN 22.9, BOBRNHSM1, BOBSN**
- 3 Golden Rock Workshop, Southern Railway : BOXNHL, BVCM, BLC**
- 4 Samastipur Workshop, East Central Railway : BOXNHL**
- 5 Amritsar Workshop, Northern Railway : BOXNHL, BVCM**
- 6 Hubli Workshop, South Western Railway : BVZI, BVCM**
- 7 Jamalpur Workshop, Eastern Railway : BOXNHL, BVCM, BLC**

**The production units manufacturing wagon cast wheels under Ministry of Railways are :-**

- 1 Rail Wheel Factory(RWF)  
Yelahanka, Bangalore, Karnataka.**
- 2 Rail Wheel Plant(RWP)/Bela  
District – Saran, Bihar**

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