GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.723 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2018

RATIONALIZATION OF COACHES IN TRAINS

723. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:

KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:

SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:

SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways is planning to rationalize the number of coaches in trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has formed a Committee to suggest standard number of coaches for all times;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said committee is likely to submit its report to the Government;
- (e) whether extra infrastructure for the standardization of coaches is required and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase more trains in the country and bring back the good rail experience to railway passengers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) & (b) Rationalization of rakes is an on-going process over Indian

Railway and *inter-alia* is aimed at improving utilization of coaching stock, ensuring punctual running of trains, releasing maintenance slots and improving turn-around time.

- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) Yes, Madam. In some cases, up-gradation of infrastructural facilities like lengthening of platform/pit line etc may be required.
- (f) Subject to operational feasibility, commercial viability and availability of resources, Indian Railways make consistent effort to cater to the need of travelling passengers by introducing more trains. In its endeavor to provide additional services, during the period April 2017 to December 2017, Indian Railways have introduced 118 new train services.

To improve rail experience for railway passengers, several steps have been taken by Indian Railways (IR), some of which are listed below:

- (i) IR has decided to proliferate LHB coaches, which are technologically superior and have better riding and aesthetics. The Production units of IR would be producing only LHB coaches from the year 2018-19 onwards.
- (ii) Various premium services like Humsafar, Tejas, Antyodaya and coaches like Deen Dayalu and Anubhuti, which have improved passenger amenities, have been introduced in service.
- (iii) IR has launched Project Swarn with the objective of significantly improving the passenger experience. In total, 14 Rajdhani and 15 Shatabdi trains will be covered. The work is already underway at various divisions of IR.

(iv) Two rakes of Shan-e-Bhopal Express (Train No.12155/12156) have also been upgraded at division level. Further, 69 trains have been identified for up-gradation in a phased manner on similar lines.

IR has planned to improve the interior of the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches. New interiors with better facilities will be provided in the existing coaches by refurbishing them during Mid Life Rehabilitation (MLR). Work in 700 such Model rake coaches is being progressively carried out, out of which more than 100 Model rake coaches have already been turned out.
