

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1162
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018**

BULLET TRAINS

1162. SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Railways is 20 years behind those of advanced nations as there is no technical upgradation, the average speed of most prestigious trains has come down, punctuality is worst and accident record has not improved and almost 20,000 lives are lost on tracks yearly;**
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;**
- (c) whether despite many deficiency in the Indian Railway network, the Government is focusing on its dream project "Bullet trains".**
- (d) if so, whether Bullet trains will cater only to the elite community and it is highly expensive and beyond the reach of ordinary people;**
- (e) if so, whether country needs a modern, clean, safe and fast rail system;**
- (f) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon; and**
- (g) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve Indian Railway network?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) & (b): While there is no yard stick to measure the technological gap between Indian Railways and foreign Railways, the Indian Railways in the last few years have been focusing on the completion of a large number of safety related works which have helped Railways achieve an all time best safety record in the last financial year. Once these safety related works are completed, punctuality is also bound to improve.

(c) & (d): To keep on par with new technology and global achievements, Bullet trains are need of the hour which is expected to attract the global investment in technology in India.

Bullet trains shall reduce the journey time considerably thereby would be an economical alternate to the rail users.

(e): Yes, Madam.

(f) & (g): Upgradation and modernisation of Indian Railways is a need based ongoing continuous process. Railways have planned to improve stations and strengthen major routes of Indian Railways through modern technological inputs. This includes provision of passenger amenities and doubling/tripling of routes with electrification, Dedicated Freight Corridors, introduction of High Speed and Bullet Trains, etc.
