GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1920 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.07.2019

INDO-FRENCH RAILWAYS

1920. DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE: SHRI VINAYAK RAUT: SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM: SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI: SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL: SHRI SRIRANGA APPA BARNE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and France have signed an agreement under which the French Railways would help to develop Indian Railway Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether French Development Agency has agreed to provide grant to the Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation (IRSDC) to support the railway station development programme in India;

(d) if so, the amount of grant agreed to by the French Development Agency;

(e) whether IRSDC has been tasked to transform many railway stations into airport like hubs of world-class standard; and

(f) if so, the stations that have been identified under the station redevelopment plan where the work is being carried out, including the State of Gujarat ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1920 BY DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE, SHRI VINAYAK RAUT, SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM, SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI, SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL AND SHRI SRIRANGA APPA BARNE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.07.2019 REGARDING INDO-FRENCH RAILWAYS

(a)to(d): No, Sir. However, Indian Railway Station Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) has entered into a Three-Party FEXTE (Fund for Technical Expertise and Experience Transfer) Partnership Agreement executed on 10th June 2019 with The Agence Francaise De Development (AFD) (the French Development Agency) and SNCF-Hubs and Connexions (Technical Partner). AFD have agreed to provide Seven lakhs Euro in kind through SNCF-Hubs and connexions as technical partner for training and capacity building etc. of IRSDC team. In addition, SNCF-Hubs and Connexions are to provide advisory services to IRSDC for design, developing, managing, structuring and implementing Railway station development projects in Pune and Bangalore. They have also agreed to provide global case studies for best practices and discuss success and failure studies on station development.

(e) & (f): Yes, Sir. IRSDC is undertaking techno-economic feasibility studies of several railway stations. Based on the outcome of these feasibility studies, stations are planned to be taken up by IRSDC for redevelopment in phases, especially the stations located in major cities, pilgrimage centres and important tourist destinations. The cost of station redevelopment project is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. Presently, work of redevelopment is in progress at Gandhinagar(Gujarat) and Habibganj(Bhopal) stations. Contracts for redevelopment have been awarded for Gomtinagar, Charbagh(Lucknow) and Puducherry stations.

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