LAND ACQUISITION POLICY

†206. SHRI MAHABALI SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the new land acquisition policy of the Railways, which provides for completing the work of land acquisition before commencing the construction work of the railway line, may delay the new projects;

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps are being contemplated to avoid such delay; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

*****
(a) to (c): Indian Railways have a number of projects where considerable investments have been made but returns are not forthcoming due to land acquisition problems. Therefore, it has been decided that the commencement of physical work for New Line projects shall be taken up only after completion of land acquisition. However, General Managers of Zonal Railways have been empowered to invite tenders if they are certain of the possibility of land acquisition in a reasonable time frame. For this, a written assurance from the State Government will be required by General Managers of Zonal Railways. General Managers of Zonal Railways have also been empowered to review further investment in projects where State support is not forthcoming and the projects have remained in limbo for long period. Railways is continuously following up with the State Governments to take necessary steps in this regard to expedite execution work of New Lines.

*****