

(b) Bidding process for world class stations in PPP mode can be initiated after Master Plan and Feasibility Report is prepared and in-principle approval of local bodies is taken. Action has been initiated for appointment of Consultant for Secunderabad.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Stoppage of trains at Laksar, Haridwar

†898. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received a request to provide stoppage of Barmer Express and Jammu Tawi Express at Laksar in Haridwar, Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, when this request was received; and

(c) the time by when the Ministry would take decision regarding the stoppage of these two trains at Laksar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A request to provide stoppage of 14609/14610 Rishikesh-Jammu Tawi Hemkunt Express and 24887/24888 Haridwar-Barmer Link Express at Laksar was first received on 21st February, 2012 by Ministry of Railways. The matter has been examined. Since both these trains bypass Laksar station, it is operationally not feasible to provide stoppages of these trains at Laksar station.

Committee to examine safety standards

899. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted a Committee to examine the current standards of safety in Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of recommendations and observations made by the Committee, if any; and

(d) the action taken/being taken by Government on the recommendations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) A High Level Safety Review Committee was constituted by Ministry of Railways on 16.09.2011 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar, former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission to go into all technical and technology related aspects in connection with safe running of trains service in the country. The Committee has submitted its Report to Ministry of Railways on 17.02.2012.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) This Committee has made 106 recommendations in their Report covering the following aspects: General Safety Matters, Organizational structure, Empowerment at Working Level, Safety Related Works and Issues, Vacancies in Critical Safety Categories and Manpower Planning issues, Shortage of Critical Safety Spares, External Interference — Encroachment and Sabotage, Signalling, Telecommunication and Train Protection, Rolling Stock, Track, Bridges, Level Crossings, Human Resource Development with Emphasis on Education and Training, Training Institutes on Indian Railways (IR), Research and Eco-System on Indian Railways and Safety Architecture on IR.

(d) The recommendations of the committee are presently under examination in the Ministry of Railways.

Raxaul-Bairgania Rail Section

900. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Raxaul-Bairgania Rail Section was closed on 1 April, 2011 for six months due to Broad Gauge (BG) conversion;

(b) if so, whether even after more than one year this section is still closed;

(c) whether Government is aware of the problems being faced by people of this area as there is no highway or other transport facility to connect Raxaul and Darbhanga; and

(d) the action being taken by the Ministry for earliest opening of Raxaul-Bairgania B.G. Rail Section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The work of Broad Gauge conversion is in advanced stage. Out of 54 km., the work on Bairgania-Chauradano section (30 km.) has been completed and Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) inspection is to be done. For the remaining 24 km. section, 75% of the work has been completed and the entire work is expected to be completed in 2012-13.

Incident of robbery and murder

901. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of one Shri Pritam Bhattacharjee, a Ph.D. scholar from Silchar, was robbed and murdered while travelling in Avadh Assam Express on 8 June, 2012 and his dead body was found on 16 June near Naugachia station in Bihar;

(b) whether it is a fact that he was being hackled and forced to get down at Naugachia station in front of the TTE of the coach and the RPF police made no serious attempt to intervene despite complaints; and