

(b) if so, the details thereof;

"Prevention of Cruelty to Animals"

(c) whether this facility has been extended to Mysore and Hubli Railway Stations also; and

3023. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) whether all the States have been actively involved in the Animal Welfare activities as well as the implementation of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960;

(b) Credit Cards of Vijaya Bank, Canara Bank, Andhra Bank and Bank of India are accepted at Bangalore City Reservation Office for purchase of reserved tickets.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) No, Sir.

(c) whether people are cooperating with animal welfare activities especially while they are transported from one city to another;

(d) No nationalised bank has come up with a request for acceptance of their Credit Cards for purchase of tickets at Mysore and Hubli stations.

(d) if not, whether Union Government propose to amend the existing Act to make it more stringent; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Introduction of Local Trains

3022. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Most of the State Governments have framed Rules under the prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. Eighteen State Governments have also appointed Nodal Officers for coordination of animal welfare activities.

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce local trains on Kalwa-Thane-Belapur route;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Kalwa-Belapur is a goods siding line, developed by M/s. CIDCO to clear the freight traffic to/from the industrial belt of New Bombay. The line on completion will have no infrastructure to run local trains.

(c) to (e). Generally, people endeavour to ensure that animals are transported safely from one place to another. However, very often it is observed that during the transport, attention is not paid to avoid overcrowding, ensure hygiene, etc. which results in infliction of suffering on the animals. Sensitivity to animals' well-being requires a lasting change in the people's attitude towards animals which can be attained only through sustained efforts at creating an awareness and not merely through amendment of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act although that too has