

Increase in Reservation quotas from and to Baroda

4806. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will The Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a good number of people including Hon'ble Members of Parliament from Gujarat who travel by the Rajdhani Express and other daily Delux and fast trains running between Delhi and Bombay, get in and get down at Baroda and then make onward journeys in Gujarat since the metre gauge travel between Delhi and Ahmedabad is terribly time-consuming;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the reservations quotas on these trains from and to Baroda;

(c) whether there is proposal to provide fast connecting trains at Baroda for onward travel to Ahmedabad and/or Surat on the above mentioned trunk lines between Delhi and Bombay; and

(d) if so, broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) and (b). An analysis of traffic moving from Ahmedabad to Delhi via Metre Gauge and via Vadodara on Broad Gauge has revealed that bulk of passengers are travelling via Metre Gauge route, the same being cheaper.

Adequate quota has been provided at Vadodara and at Ahmedabad for passengers travelling to Delhi on Broad Gauge route.

(c) and (d). Suitable connecting trains already exist for travel between Ahmedabad and Delhi via Vadodara.

K.K. Express

4807. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum distance restrictions for travel by K.K. Express;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Railway authorities in Kerala are not issuing tickets at no other stations than Trivandrum Central to places like Vijayawada, Nagpur, Itarsi etc.; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to rectify this position?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE). (a) As 125 Dn/126 Up Kerala-Karnataka Express trains, have been introduced, to cater mainly

to long distance traffic, on these routes, instructions have been issued for regulating passenger traffic on these trains as under:

In the Down direction i.e. from Trivandrum Central/Bangalore to New Delhi, Bangalore/Trivandrum Central stations book passengers for Nagpur and beyond. Quotas have been allotted to the intermediate stations. These Intermediate stations viz. Quilon, Kottayam, Ernakulam Jn., Trichur, Olavakkot, Coimbatore, Erode, Salem, Renigunta, Vijayawada etc. book passengers to the extent of quotas allotted to them observing a distance restriction of 600 Kms. Bangalore and Trivandrum Central stations also book passengers for the above mentioned intermediate stations to the extent of quota allotted to each of them. In the last lap of journey which is Jhansi for Delhi bound train, passengers are booked to the extent of accommodation available, on arrival of the train at the platform in order to make full use of the available accommodation in the train.

In the Up direction i.e. from New Delhi to Bangalore/Trivandrum Central, New Delhi station books passengers for Vijayawada and beyond. Quotas have been allotted to intermediate stations. These intermediate stations viz. Jhansi, Bhopal, Nagpur, Vijayawada etc. book passengers to the extent of quotas allotted to them observing a distance restriction of 600 Kms. New Delhi station also book passengers for the intermediate stations to the extent of quotas allotted to each of them. In the last lap of journey which is Renigunta for the portion of the train going to Bangalore and Coimbatore for the portion of the train going to Trivandrum Central, passengers are booked to the extent of accommodation available, on arrival of the train at the platform in order to make full use of the available accommodation.

(b) A few complaints to this effect have been received from the public and through the Press.

(c) Southern Railway has been asked to reinforce and clarify the instructions as contained in (a) above to stations on that Railway for proper and strict compliance to eliminate complaints from the public.

Plan for constructing a Fertilizer plant called 'Narmada Valley'

4808. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to construct a fertilizer plant called "Narmada Valley" in the District of Barooach of Gujarat; and