

The average number of passengers left on the waiting list by 2381/2382, 2303/2304 Poorva-Express and 2311/2312 Kalka Mail in different classes varies as under

<i>Down Direction towards Howrah</i>	
I AC	1
II AC	4 to 8
Sleeper Class	23 to 88
<i>Up Direction towards Delhi</i>	
I AC	5 to 10
II AC	20 to 40
Sleeper Class	300 to 400

(d) No. Sir 2421/2422 weekly Rajdhani was introduced between Delhi and Bhubaneshwar via Howrah w.e.f. 1.4.94.

(e) Does not arise

(f) & (g) No. Sir. However, 3039/3040 Howrah-Delhi Janta Express has been restored w.e.f. 1.10.96 providing additional accommodation between Howrah and Delhi.

Frequency of EMU Trains

1906. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to augment the frequency of EMU Trains being operated as the Ring Railways Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways are operating any feeder bus service to provide a link between Ring Railway stops and the nearest DTC stops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Telecommunication System in Nizamabad

1907. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telecommunication system is not satisfactory in Nizamabad town of Andhra Pradesh since

most of the telephones provided there do not function properly; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve telephone services and to attend to the telephone complaints promptly?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The telecommunication services are generally satisfactory.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above. However, following steps are being taken by the Government for further improvement of services:

- i. Replacement of old and worn out equipment.
- ii. Computerisation of fault repair service.
- iii. Replacement of fault prone cables by jelly filled cables.
- iv. Laying of cables in ducts.
- v. Induction of modern testing aids.
- vi. Providing reliable transmission media.

[Translation]

Orders by BSP to HEC, Ranchi

1908. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of work orders given to HEC, Ranchi during each of the last three years by Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) whether the work orders given were sufficient in number;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of the companies to whom the work orders were given during the above period which could have been handled by HEC;

(e) the amount spent on the work orders given to these companies; and

(f) the amount spent on each work orders separately given to HEC during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Policy for Changing Names of Railway Station

1909. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs is alone competent to approve change in the names of Railway Stations; and

(b) the reasons for involvement of other Ministries for change of names of Railway Stations, when the names of Railway Stations are initially decided by his own Ministry?

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

(b) The proposals for change in the name of railway stations are examined by Ministry of Home Affairs as consultations are required with other Departments/ Ministries namely Department of Science & Technology, Department of Posts, Ministry of Railways and Survey of India as per guidelines issued by them, also in order to ensure that there is no village or town with the same name in the State/neighbourhood, historical connections are not lost etc.

Thado Language Programmes on AIR

1910. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum demanding broadcasting of THADO language programmes from AIR Station, Diphu, Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A representation dated 11.9.1996 from a local Thadou Organization of Diphu Town was received through Hon'ble M.P., Dr. Jayanta Rongpi requesting that time may be allocated on AIR, Diphu for programmes in different dialects including Thadou.

(c) The principal dialect of broadcast of AIR, Diphu is Karbi. It also broadcasts programmes in Bodo, Dimasa and Assamese. The station under its Access Programming System proposes to give opportunities to distinct groups in the community including the sub-tribes to present programmes in their dialects.

Optical Fibre at Sahibganj

1911. SHRI THOMAS HANSDA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work for providing optical fibre was to be completed at Sahibganj in Bihar during 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether the said work has started from Bhagalpur;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the said facility is likely to be made available in Sahibganj?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). In view of reply to (a) above question does not arise.

(d) By September, 1998.

[Translation]

Extension of Train

1912. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers are demanding to extend the Memodren train upto Umargam and Sanjan railway station which runs from Bombay to Danu railway station,

(b) if so, whether the Government have contemplated on said demand so far;

(c) if so, the decision taken in this regard and the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided to the passengers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Extension of Mumbai/Bandra-Jahanu Road DMU Trains/Shuttles upto Umbargam Road and Sanjan has been examined but not found operationally feasible. However, no EMU/MEMU trains are running between Mumbai/Bandra and Dahanu Road.

Flight between Silchar-Delhi and Calcutta-Guwahati

1913. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of flights between Silchar-Delhi and Calcutta-Guwahati;

(b) whether at present any person willing to go to Silchar from Guwahati has to go via Calcutta;

(c) whether any proposal have been received to link up Silchar-Aizwal and Agartala by air; and

(d) if so, the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Indian Airlines does not operate direct services between Delhi-Silchar. However, Silchar is airlinked with Delhi via Guwahati and Calcutta. There are six weekly flights between Calcutta and Silchar by Indian Airlines and three weekly flights between Silchar and Guwahati by NEPC. Indian Airlines operates 10 times a week flight on Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta sector and twice weekly flights on Calcutta-Imphal-Guwahati-Calcutta sector.

(b) NEPC Airlines is operating three flights weekly between Silchar and Guwahati and four flights weekly via Imphal between above two destinations.