

[English]

Proposal by Pune Pravasi Paryatak Manch

3397. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from Pune Pravasi Paryatak Manch relating to railways;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals;

(c) the action being taken by the Government on those proposals; and

(d) the time by which the final decision on those proposals is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation has the following proposals :—

1. Increase in frequency of Pune-Ahmedabad Ahimsa Express and its extension upto Jodhpur.
2. Implementation of Pune Division.
3. Attachment of AC-3 tier coaches in Pune-Ahmedabad Ahimsa Express, Pune-Howrah Azad Hind Express, Goa Express, Kolhapur-Gondia Maharashtra Express.
4. Stoppage of Pune-Mumbai Pragati Express at Kalyan station.
5. Extension of Goa Express upto Vasco-da-Gama and change in its timings ex-Pune.
6. Permission to travel in the sleeper class coaches during day time on Pune-Mumbai and Mumbai-Pune-Solapur section.

(c) and (d) The frequency of 1095/1096 Pune-Ahmedabad Ahimsa Express will be increased from 3 days a week to 4 days a week during 1999-2000.

Extension of Ahimsa Express upto Jodhpur, attachment of AC 3-tier coaches in Ahimsa Express, Azad Hind Express, Goa Express and Maharashtra Express, stoppage of Pragati Express at Kalyan & extension of Goa Express upto Vasco-da-Gama and change in its timings ex-Pune have been examined but not found operationally and technically feasible. Besides, the section between Castle Rock and Kulem is not yet cleared by Commissioner for Railway Safety for operation of passenger trains.

Sleeper class is a fully reserved class and higher than second class. Passengers holding confirmed and RAC ticket for this class are only allowed to travel in this class. Higher fare is charged from passengers for travel by this class for enjoying a relatively convenient journey. Keeping the safety and convenience of reserved passengers in mind, under no circumstances, unreserved passengers are booked alongwith sleeper class passengers.

Daund (excl.)-Baramati and Pune-Ahmednagar section has been included in Pune Division. Daund station has not been included due to operational reasons.

Performance of I.A.

3398. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines have performed well during November & December 1998;

(b) if so, whether there were a sudden increase in traffic to a conscious exercise on the part of Indian Airlines to improve its services;

(c) if so, whether the marketing exercise are able to fetch the desired results; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The performance of Indian Airlines during the month of

November and December 1998, was as follows :-

(Rs. in crores)

	November, 1998	December, 1998
Operating Profit/(Loss)	14.90	41.05
Net Profit/(Loss)	(4.10)	22.25
Revenue Tonne Kilometres (RTKMs) (Million)	57.033	64.601

The details of passengers carried are as below:—

No. of Passengers carried (in million)	October, 1998	November, 1998	December, 1998
	0.58	0.587	0.546

Improvement in the product and marketing efforts are ongoing process Indian Airlines makes continuous efforts to improve its product and to retain competitive edge in the market. Indian Airlines is taking measures to bring about qualitative and quantitative improvement in the service rendered to the passengers and increase in profitability through :- (i) Product upgrade, (ii) Increase utilisation of aircraft, (iii) Increase International operations, (iv) Increased productivity, (v) Creation of profit centres, (vi) Innovative and aggressive marketing strategies, (vii) Launching of Alliance Air, and (viii) Cost control measure.

[Translation]

Air Crashes near Bamharauli Airport

3399. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the air crashes often take place at Bamharauli Airport (C.A.T.C.) in Allahabad district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of such air crashes during the last three years and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amount of compensation provided for the loss of life and property in such aircrashes and the efforts made to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Civil Aviation Training Centre (C.A.T.C.) is an organisation under Ministry of Civil Aviation. It has been informed by that Ministry that this centre does not have any aircraft of its own.

[English]

Malayalam Movie 'Pathram'

3400. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Censor Board has given certificate for release of a Malayalam movie named 'Pathram';

(b) whether there were some objections for giving such certification to the said movie;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether certification for some Hindi and regional language films have been criticised by the public and courts;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(f) the grounds on which certificates have been issued to these films?