

**Introduction of Luxury Tourist Trains**

302. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had formulated any scheme to introduce 'Luxury Tourist Trains' with the participation of private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the areas where these trains are planned to be introduced; and

(c) the time by which these trains are likely to be introduced ?

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) and (c) On the basis of Global bids, contract has been awarded to M/s Sterling Holiday Resorts India Ltd., for the ownership, marketing and management of luxury tourist trains on the tourist circuits indicated below :

(1) Delhi-Jaipur-Agra-Gwalior-Jnansi-(Khajuraho)-Varanasi-Lucknow-Delhi.

(2) Bangalore-Mysore-Madras-Kodaikanal Road-Kanyakumari-Trivandrum-Cochin-Mettupalayam (Cooty)-Bangalore.

M/s Sterling Holiday Resorts India Ltd., have already deposited the security deposit of Rs. 30 lakhs with Northern Railway and are currently taking up the task of construction of the rake. These tourist trains will be introduced as soon as this work is completed.

[English]

**Increase in Frequency of Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express**

303. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Government for making the bi-weekly Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express as a daily train; and

(b) if so, the response of the Government in this regard ?

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) and (b) Representations received in this regard have been examined and

increase in frequency has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

**Train Accidents**

304. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

SHRI NARESH PUJLIA :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether two rail accidents were occurred one of 3231 Up Howrah-Danapur Express in Bihar on April 28, 1998 and another between Manmad-Kacheguda Express and a goods train at Parli-Vajinath Railway Station in Maharashtra on April 24, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons of such accidents;

(c) the number of persons killed/injured in each of such accidents and value of Government property damaged thereby separately;

(d) whether any enquiry has been conducted into these accidents;

(e) if so, the outcome of the enquiry;

(f) the amount of compensation paid by the Government to the victims; and

(g) the action taken against the guilty officials ?

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) to (f) Yes, Sir. On 24.4.1998, 7663 Manmad-Kacheguda Express was involved in a collision with a goods train at Parli Vajinath station of Vikarabad-Parli Vajinath section of Secunderabad Division of South Central Railway leading to the death of 24 persons and injury to 14. On 28.04.1998, 9 coaches of 3231 Howrah-Danapur Express derailed between Fatua and Bankaghat stations of Danapur Division of Eastern Railway leading to the death of 12 persons and injury to 41. Ex-gratia relief was arranged to the next of kin of the dead and those injured. Compensation will be paid after award of decrees by the Railway Claims Tribunal. Both the accidents are under enquiry by the Commissioners of Railway Safety.

(g) Action will be taken on receipt of the Reports of the Commissioners of Railway Safety/South Central Circle and Eastern Circle.