

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3911  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2001  
NAMING OF TRAINS AFTER INDIVIDUALS  
N.T. SHANMUGAM

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether mail/express trains cannot be named after any individuals;
- (b) if so, the details of representations received for naming trains after individuals/famous personalities during the last three years;
- (c) the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, whether a train "Maveli Express" running between Karnataka and Kerala has been named after a famous King Maha Bali;
- (e) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (f) the reasons for naming a train after an individuals?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIST  
RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (f): Naming of the trains is the prerogative of the Railways. As per the extant policy, Railways, normally, do not name trains after individuals or personalities. On different occasions, large numbers of representations are received in the Board for naming of different trains, which are examined and dealt with on the basis of end destinations, geographical consideration etc. and then a suitable name is given to the train. Representations from the public at National, Zonal and Divisional levels are received and they are very large in number. Therefore, it is not practical to maintain all of them.

Recently, a new train between Mangalore and Trivandrum has been named as Maveli Express and the name Maveli is not given after the name of any individuals, living or dead. Mahabali is a legendary king, who is very popular among the people of Kerala.