

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:177
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2005
LUXURY TOURIST TRAINS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce luxury tourist trains (Palace on Wheels) in some Southern States on the pattern of the train running in Rajasthan sector to attract more domestic and foreign tourists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the said trains are likely to be introduced;
- (d) whether proposals to start such luxury tourist trains in other States have also been received from respective State Governments;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (f) the reaction of the Union Government thereto and the time by which the same are likely to be started?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 177, BY SHRI S. K. KHARVENTHAN, TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04/08/2005 REGARDING LUXURY TOURIST TRAINS.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been entered into between the Indian Railways and the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) for running a luxury tourist train in the Karnataka sector.

(c): The train is to be commissioned by the KSTDC. No time frame has been given by them.

(d): No, Sir.

(e) & (f): Do not arise.