

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:49

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2007

LUXURY TOURIST TRAINS

Agarwal Shri Dharendra; Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) whether some State Governments have proposed to launch luxury tourist trains for promotion of tourism in their States;
- (b) if so, the details of proposals received by the railways in this regard and the action taken by the Railways thereon alongwith their present status; and
- (c) the other measures taken by the Railways for the promotion of tourism?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 49 BY DR. M. JAGANNATH AND DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 01/03/2007 REGARDING LUXURY TOURIST TRAINS.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways has received proposals to run luxury tourist trains from the State Governments of Karnataka, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Approval has been given by the Ministry of Railways to run luxury tourist trains in Karnataka and Punjab. The proposal to run luxury tourist train from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is being examined whereas the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has not sent any comprehensive proposal in this regard.

(c): The Railway is encouraging chartering of Trains, Coaches, Hill section trains as well as operation of complete tourist packages. In addition of these Budget Hotels at 100 locations have also been considered to be set up to promote tourism. Now IRCTC can book upto 15% of AC berths and 10% of sleeper berths as per demand in different trains to cater to tourism packages being run by tour operators.

Indian Railways has been selling Indrail Passes to foreign citizens wherein journey tickets can be availed for as many destinations, as per choice as can be possible within the time period for which the pass has been bought. These provisions by Indian Railway are contributing immensely in touristm activities in India.