GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6833 ANSWERED ON:17.05.2012 TRAINS TO GUJARAT AND MADHYA PRADESH

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ministry of Railways has received representations to increase the frequency of various trains running to/from Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of trains which are available to the passengers of various pilgrim places like Dakor, Palitana, Somnath, Pambaki and Junagadh and tourist places in Madhya Pradesh;
- (d) whether the Government of Gujarat has also requested that trains running from Ahmedabad to the major cities of North India should pass through Gandhinagar; and
- (e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government on the demand of States of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

- (a) & (b) Indian Railways do not run passenger carrying train services on State-wise basis as railway network runs across State boundaries. Representations from Hon'ble Members of Parliament/Ministers/ organizations/ associations/different levels of state government, including Government of Gujarat etc. are received at various levels of railway administration for increase in the frequency of trains and introduction of new trains. These are examined and action as found feasible and justified, is taken on the basis of traffic justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources.
- (c) There is no station named "Pambaki" on Western Railway. At present, Dakor, Palitana and Somnath are served by 4 pairs of trains (2 pairs of Passenger & 2 pairs of MEMU trains), 3 pairs of passenger trains and 4 pairs (3 pairs of Express and 1 pair of passenger trains) respectively. Poonam special trains are also run for Dakor from Vadodara and Ahmedabad every month. Pilgrims desiring to visit Ambaji can avail trains going towards and having stoppage at Abu Road. Junagadh is being served by 6 pairs of Express/Passenger trains and 4 pairs of passenger trains on Broad Gauge and two pairs of Metre Gauge trains.
- (d) & (e) Yes, Madam. Representations received from various levels including those from States of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are examined and action as found feasible and justified, is taken on the basis of traffic justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources. At present, there is no proposal to divert additional long distance trains from Ahmedabad to Gandhinagar. However, Anand-Gandhinagar MEMU (Mainline Electric Multiple Unit) train via Ahmedabad has been announced in Railway Budget 2012-2013.