

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3562

ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014

TRAIN CONNECTIVITY

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Saurashtra region of Gujarat has low/inadequate train connectivity and several representations have been made to Railways for starting new trains;

(b) whether Railways have received representation from various people organisation/rail users and associations for starting new trains from Rajkot/Bhavnagar region of Saurashtra;and

(c) if so, the time by which the said request is likely to be acceded to?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) to (c) Representations, inter alia, for starting new train services serving the state of Gujarat in general and Rajkot/Bhavnagar stations of Saurashtra region of Gujarat in particular, have been received from time to time. Although, Indian Railways do not run train services on state-wise/region-wise basis, the demands received have been examined and the following services, announced in Railway Budget 2013-14, have been introduced to cater to the needs of Rajkot/ Bhavnagar stations:

1. 19575/19576 Okha-Nathdwara Express (weekly) via Rajkot w.e.f. 24.09.2013;
2. 22919/22920 Rajkot -Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express (weekly) w.e.f. 27.01.2014;
3. 59507/59508 Somnath-Rajkot Passenger (daily) w.e.f. 18.08.2013;
4. 59201/59202 Bhavnagar-Palitana Passenger (daily) w.e.f. 19.07.2013;
5. 59203/59204 Bhavnagar-Surendranagar Passenger (daily) w.e.f. 19.07.2013;
6. Extension of 79454/79445 Morbi-Wankaner DEMU upto Rajkot w.e.f. 02.09.2013; and
7. Extension of 19251/19252 Somnath-Dwarka Express (daily) upto Okha w.e.f. 02.09.2013.

Besides, introduction of train services on Indian Railways is an on-going process subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources.