

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3720

ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014

FREQUENCY OF TRAINS

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received representations from People Representatives/Citizen Forums to increase the frequency of various trains running to/from Kerala (Sabarimala) and Karnataka, especially in Mysore, Bangalore, Hubli divisions, if so, the details and action taken thereon;

(b) whether trains available for various pilgrimage and tourist places like Sabarimala, Mysore, Belur, Halebeedu, Srirangapatnam, Bijapur, Aihole, Pattadakal, Badami, Shravanabelagola and Hampi are sufficient to meet passenger rush and if not, the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to increase the frequency of these trains;

(c) whether the Railways run Special Trains during summer and festival seasons to manage passenger rush, if so, the details thereof alongwith the revenue generated, zone-wise;and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to introduce new trains services from Shirdi to Howrah via. Manmad, Aurangabad, Akole, Nagpur and Rajpur and Special Train from Delhi to Shirdi on daily basis?

Answer

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

(a) Representations for increase in frequency of existing trains and introduction of new train services for various destinations including pilgrimage & tourist places are received at various levels of railway administration and action as found feasible & justified is taken subject to traffic justifications, availability of resources, etc. This is an ongoing process. However, Indian railways do not maintain a compendium of such representations.

(b) & (c) The present connectivity to various pilgrimage and tourist places like Sabarimala (served by Chengannur/Tiruvalla), Mysore, Belur, Bijapur, Shravanbelagola etc. are considered adequate. Besides, to supplement the regular services, Indian Railways run special trains during summer and festival seasons every year to clear extra rush of passengers, during summer and festival seasons. The planning of such special trains is done keeping in view the pattern of traffic, operational feasibility and availability of resources. This is an on going process on Indian Railways and the earning arising therefrom becomes part of the total passenger earnings of the respective Zonal Railways. Indian Railway do not maintain earning statistics of special trains run during summer and festival seasons separately.

(d) At present, 22893/22894 Sainagar Shirdi-Howrah Express (weekly) via Manmad, Akola, Nagpur & Rajpur and 22455/22456 Kalka-Sainagar Shirdi superfast Express via New Delhi (Bi-weekly) are already available. However, introduction of new train service between Howrah and Sai Nagar Shirdi and a daily service of special train between New Delhi and Sai Nagar Shirdi is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.