

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3596
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014
TOURIST TRAINS
Dias Dr. Charles

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of trains running along with their names and routes for visiting various tourist destinations;
- (b) whether the Railways intend to introduce more trains for tourists, connecting important tourist destinations in the country;
- (c) if so, the names of tourist destinations that are intended to be covered by such trains;
- (d) whether the existing luxury tourist trains such as 'Palace on Wheels' are running in profit; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a): Presently, tourist trains - Palace on wheels, Royal Rajasthan on Wheels, Deccan Odyssey, Golden Chariot, Maharajas' Express, Bharat Darshan and Mahaparinirvan Express - are in operations, in association with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation / State Tourism Corporations offering package tours. The itineraries of these trains are Appended. In addition, regular passenger carrying trains connecting various tourist destinations are also available.
- (b) & (c): Introduction of train services connecting various places, including tourist destinations, is an on-going process subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources etc.
- (d) & (e): The policy of charging luxury tourist trains by Indian Railways entail no loss to Indian Railways. Luxury tourist train Palace on Wheels is operated on a revenue sharing basis with Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation and other similar trains are operated against payment of haulage charge by respective tourism corporations leaving the actual profit / loss to the respective tourism corporations.