

>

Title : Need to provide stoppage of Porbander-Kochuveli Express, Dadar-Tirunelveli Express and Hapa-Madgaon Express at railway stations at Kankavli, Kudal and Sawantwadi road in Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.

SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE (RATNAGIRI-SINDHUDURG): I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Railways towards the plight of the people of Maharashtra, Konkan, especially the people of Ratnagiri – Sindhudurg due to lack of stoppages in the high density rail traffic routes between Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg section of the Konkan Railways. All the trains in the Konkan Railway plying to/from Kerala, Karnataka and Goa pass through Ratnagiri – Sindhudurg, but no adequate stoppage are there in this section to cater to the needs of burgeon rail commuters.

A weekly train namely, Porbander – Kochuveli Express, which was announced by Western railway to commence its services shortly does not have halt between Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg section. Besides, two proposed new trains in this year Railway Budget, namely Dadar – Tirunelveli Express and Hapa – Madgaon Express on Konkan Railway route surprisingly have no halts between the Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg section of the Maharashtra Konkan region. This has caused a huge disappointment to the people of Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, for whom Konkan Railway is literally their lifeline.

Ratnagiri – Sindhudurg is a region of exquisite tourists interests that attracts domestic as well as foreign tourists in large number. Besides, the people of this region have to commute to Mumbai and other places on that route. There is an imperative need to enhance existing frequencies, additional provisioning of reservation quota and increase in number of stoppage of trains plying in this route can hardly be over-emphasized.

I urge Hon'ble Railway Minister to kindly ensure addition of stops between Ratnagiri and Sawantwadi stations for the above mentioned three trains at Kankavli, Kudal and Sawantwadi Road in the larger public interest as also to harness the untapped tourism potential.