

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) There is no such proposal at present.

The Royal Rajasthan on wheels

80. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC) has recently launched a luxury train 'The Royal Rajasthan on Wheels' costing Rs.90,000/- per night, for tour of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, capacity-wise and the details of expenditure incurred by Indian Railways and State Government thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that rates fixed are exorbitant and it is most expensive train travel in world;

(d) whether "Zero Booking" was reported for second trip and only 23 passengers availed of first trip; and

(e) if so, what are reasons for such a poor start which lead to indefinite stoppage of train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Railways in association with Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC) has recently launched the luxury train Royal Rajasthan on Wheels. It has a capacity of 82 persons on twin sharing basis. The estimated expenditure incurred by the Railways and RTDC on the project are Rs. 12.50 Cr. and Rs. 27.50 Cr. respectively. The current tariff for the deluxe suit are US\$ 699 per person per night on twin sharing basis and US\$ 1099 per person per night for single occupancy basis. The tariff for super deluxe suite, which are only 2 out of the total 41 suites, is US\$ 2000 per night.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) This train has been launched only recently and such trains take time to get established in the market. The operation of the train has not been stopped indefinitely though there has been cancellation of some trips.

Stoppage of trains

81. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the tourism and historical importance and increased number of passengers in the sub-division headquarters of Bajali and Bijni, the railway stations of Bijni and Pathasala would be provided with stoppage of the South bound and North bound trains along with upgradation of facilities at those two stations;