

eshwar Puri" of the Time Table of the South Eastern Railways published in November 1980 stating that the 176 Dn leaves from New Delhi on Saturdays;

(b) if so, whether it is a correct entry; and

(c) if not, by when Government propose to rectify this mistake?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) This mistake will be rectified in the next edition of S.E. Railway's Time Table. However, the days of 176 Nilachal Express have been shown correctly at page 47 of South Eastern Railway's Time Table.

#### Change in Timings of Nilachal Express

1555. SHRI JAGDISH JANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received a request for changing the starting time of the Nilachal Express from Puri earlier to enable the train to reach New Delhi by the evening;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken into consideration the difficulties faced by the passengers in finding conveyance at odd hours at New Delhi Railway Station to their respective destinations; and

(c) if so, the date from which Government propose to change the timing to give relief to these passengers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) It is not feasible to bring this train earlier into New Delhi as suitable path and platforms are not available. Earlier start from Puri is also not feasible at present for want of a path for the train on Puri-Khurda Road single line section.

#### Growth rate of population in North Eastern States

1556. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of growth of population in the States and Union Territories of the North-Eastern Region during the period 1976—1978; and

(b) the measures adopted by Government to control population in this region and the extent of success of such measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Estimates are available regarding the natural growth rate of population. According to the sample Registration System of the Registrar General, India, the annual natural growth rate of population obtained as difference in the average birth rate and death rate in each of the States and Union Territories in the North-Eastern region during the period 1976—78 was as follows:—

States	Average Annual Growth Rate (%)
1. Assam	1.75
2. Manipur	2.09
3. Nagaland	1.40
4. Meghalaya	1.94
5. Tripura	2.01
6. Arunachal Pradesh	1.43
7. Mizoram	Not available.