

Tinsukia Mail

2714. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tinsukia Mail falls under the category of Super-fast trains ;

(b) whether it is a fact that this train runs as a Super-fast Train only between New Delhi and New Bongaigaon ; and if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether it is a fact that reserved accommodation for second class passengers is not available between New Bongaigaon and Gauhati ; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken to improve the timely running of this train and also to provide this train with all the facilities available in other Super-fast trains ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c) 156 Dn/155 Up Tinsukia Mails running between New Delhi and New Bongaigaon are super-fast trains while the connecting Metre gauge 7 Up/8 Dn Tinsukia Mails running between New Bongaigaon and Tinsukia are not super-fast since the M.G. trains have a large number of stoppages. Suitable quotas of reserved accommodation have been allotted to New Delhi by 7 Up Tinsukia Mail (MG) for the facility of through passengers travelling from New Delhi to Gauhati.

(d) The punctuality of 7/8 MG Tinsukia Mail has not been satisfactory primarily due to Assam agitation. However, all feasible efforts are being made to improve its running. Since these trains are not super fast trains, the question of providing all the facilities available in a super-fast train does not arise. However, facilities like reservation of berths/seats and manning of reserved coaches by staff are already provided in these trains.

Late Running of Arunachal Express

2715. SHRI RATAN TAMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to a very old engine attached to the Arunachal Express running between Alipurduar and Murkongselek, the train often gets late by long hours ;

(b) if so, why a new engine has not been provided so far ; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to ensure regular running of the said train ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) while the punctuality performance of this train has been generally satisfactory, the main reason for the occasional loss of punctuality has been the poor quality of coal. Action is being taken to improve punctuality by monitoring the running of the train.

Personnel Department of N.F. Railway

2716. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints of corruption and nepotism against the Personnel Department of the N.F. Railway, if so, whether any enquiry has been made into it ;