

Inconvenience to passengers of Kalka-Delhi Shatabdi train

†1975. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that coach E1 of Kalka-Delhi Shatabdi which arrived Delhi on 8 November, 2010 was infested with insects;

(b) whether it is a fact that passengers had to face difficulty due to non functioning of air conditioners of this compartment after Ambala;

(c) whether the train arrived much late than its schedule time; and

(d) the action Government proposes to take against the persons responsible for it and the measures being adopted to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Insects were reported in coach E-1 (Executive Chair Car) of Kalka-New Delhi Shatabdi Express train, which arrived New Delhi on 08.11.2010.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The contractor for Pest and Rodent Control treatment in this train has been penalized. Disciplinary action has been initiated against the concerned staff responsible for maintenance and upkeep of air conditioners in this coach.

Professional agencies are being engaged for Pest and Rodent control and cleaning activities in Trains. Checks/Inspections in these areas and Maintenance of passenger amenities shall be intensified.

Setting-up of a medical college and hospital in Orissa

†1976. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal to set-up a medical college and hospital in Orissa;

(b) if so, by when and the place at which it would be set-up; and

(c) whether the State Government has sent any proposal to the Centre in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The Medical College is proposed to be set up at Bhubaneswar with the existing Railway Hospital. Work at site shall commence after award of concession and financial closure is achieved by the concessionaire. The completion of the project is likely to take 4 to 5 years.

(c) No, Sir.

High speed trains in India

†1977. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering a plan to run high speed trains in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any step so far to run the said trains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of routes selected so far by Government to run the said trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) At present, Ministry of Railways has decided only to conduct prefeasibility studies for running of high speed trains on six selected corridors, in consultation with concerned State Governments.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Pantry cars in long distance passenger trains

†1978. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of long distance passenger trains that run more than 24 hours on various routes in the country;
- (b) whether all these trains have pantry cars; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps Government is taken to provide pantry car in these trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Presently, 316 pairs of Express trains are scheduled to run for more than 24 hours on various routes in the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Attachment of pantry cars to the trains is based on various factors such as operational feasibility, priority of the train, journey time, commercial justification,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.