

Effect of New Catering Policy

576. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that small caterers were unhappy with the revised catering policy announced by the Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that with the new catering policy, the level playing field for the small caterers will be wiped out; and
- (d) if so, the measures taken by Government to ensure that small caterers remain in fray?

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

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Demand for increase in frequency of Tirukkural Express

577. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any representation for increasing the frequency of the Tirukkural Express between Nizamuddin and Kanyakumari, which is running only once a week;
- (b) if so, whether Government will come forward to increase the frequency of Thirukkural Express at least thrice in a week since it is a long pending demand of Tamil Nadu;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

- (b) At present, there is no proposal to increase the frequency of 12641/12642 Kanyakumari-Hazrat Nizamuddin Thirukkural (weekly) Express.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Increase in the frequency of 12641/12642 Kanyakumari-Hazrat Nizamuddin Thirukkural (weekly) Express is not feasible due to operational and resource constraints at present.