

Halt of South Bound trains at Wankaner

747. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:

SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to give a halt of South Bound trains from Hapa and Rajkot at Wankaner were received by the Ministry;

(b) whether the proposal has been scrutinised and decision taken;

(c) what are the parameters of commercial viability of giving a stoppage and reservation quota to such trains; and

(d) whether the department is sending stereo type replies to representations made for stoppage and reservation quota in such cases?

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

(b) The proposal has been examined but not found feasible.

(c) Adequate traffic, operational feasibility, availability of alternate services, etc.

(d) Proposals are being scrutinised at various levels and reply is given with due care.

Construction of Guruvayur-Kuttippuram rail line

748. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a long pending demand for construction of Guruvayur-Kuttippuram railway line in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) The work was sanctioned as doubling project, but consequent

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RAJYA SABHA

to sanction of doubling between Shornur-Kuttippuram, this line is now classified as new line from Tanur to Guruvayur. The survey report is under examination in consultation with the concerned zonal Railway after which requisite clearances will be obtained before the work is taken up.

Problems of railway passengers

†749. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reaction of Government to the editorial published under the caption "Rail Yatrin Ki Trasdi" on 4th June, 2000 in "Dainik Jagran"; and

(b) the measures Government have taken to resolve all these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) In order to improve the punctuality of GNS-1 Ghaziabad-Sukur Basti EMU which is linked with MN-1 Mathura-New Delhi EMU and GN-2 New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU, it has been decided that whenever MN-1 is late by more than 15 minutes, a separate rake is pulled ex. Ghaziabad EMU car shed so that the service GNS-1 is provided within 15 minutes of its right time departure. As a result, the punctuality performance of GNS-1 has improved substantially.

Necessary instructions have been reiterated to the concerned authorities to monitor the running of all suburban services for giving better services to passengers. Introduction of additional services on New Delhi-Ghaziabad section has not been found operationally feasible at present.

Passenger fares of different classes are adjusted time to time keeping in view the increase in cost of service as well as the ability of passenger to bear such increase. In last ten years, even Second Class

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.