

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways charged Rs. 5.6 lakhs from the villagers of Taj Nagar, Haryana, who constructed a railway station with requisite infrastructure from their own resource by collecting donations/contributing to the tune of Rs. 30 lakhs for this project;

(b) if so, would such a charge being collected by Railways not dampen enthusiasm of voluntary community participation in creating assets like small railway stations for benefit of general public; and

(c) would Railways reimburse this amount to the villagers as a gesture of good will?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) to (c) Taj Nagar Railway Station was sanctioned as a halt station on request of villagers on passenger amenity ground subject to shramdan by them and with no capital expenditure by Railway. A sum of Rs.5,07,034 was deposited by the villagers towards the cost of work done by Railway, establishment charges, contingency charges & departmental charges. As the development of Railway station was mainly through voluntary community participation, a sum of Rs.3,96,229 collected towards establishment, departmental & contingency charges has been reimbursed to Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Taj Nagar (Haryana).

**Duronto train from Pune to Ahmedabad**

2167. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to introduce a new Duronto train from Pune to Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the frequency of this train; and

(c) by when the said train is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 12297/12298 Pune-Ahmedabad Duronto Express (AC service) with frequency of 3 days a week, has been announced in the Railway Budget 2011-12.

(c) The services announced in the Railway Budget 2011-12 are introduced during the same financial year 2011-12.