

(b) if so, the manner in which Government intends to eliminate this discrimination;

(c) the number of trains connecting Gandhinagar with rest of the country; and

(d) whether Government intends to increase the number of trains plying to/ from Gandhinagar under the 'Rajya Rani' scheme announced in Budget 2011-12?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, Gandhinagar Capital is being served by 4 pairs of trains. These include:—

(i) 19105/19106 Ahmedabad-Haridwar Mail (daily).

(ii) 12215/12216 Bandra (T)-Jaipur-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Garib Rath Express (4 days a week).

(iii) 69131/69132 Vadodara-Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar MEMU (daily)

(iv) 19309/19310 Indore-Gandhinagar Shanti Express (daily).

(d) No, Sir.

Connectivity between Surat and Varanasi

†2783. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the concrete steps being taken by Railways to increase the frequency of the Tapti Ganga Express, the only train plying on Surat-Varanasi route and to fulfil the long standing demand of running a superfast train on this route; and

(b) by when Amreli would be connected to Surat by railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Proposal to increase the frequency of 12945/12946 Surat-Varanasi Tapti Ganga Express (5 days in a week) has been examined, but has not been found feasible at present.

(b) At present, there is no sanctioned project for connecting Amreli to Surat.

Non-payment of dues to employees of Bikaner Division

2784. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Group D employees of Bikaner Division of North Western Railway have not been paid their dues/salaries for the last 4-5 months;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.