

**Launch of premium train service**

\*420. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have launched a premium train service on Delhi-Mumbai-Delhi route in December, 2013, if so, the salient features of this unique initiative of Railways;

(b) the average base and peak price of this premium service; and

(c) whether Government plans to introduce more premium trains for different locations this year and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Yes, Sir. 22913/22914 Mumbai Central — New Delhi Premium Special was a fully air conditioned train on premium pricing. It was operated on end-to-end basis with no commercial stoppages enroute. The booking of tickets was only through the internet and no waiting list was permitted. No concessions were applicable on this train. Refund was admissible only in the case of cancellation of train.

(b) Minimum “Base Price” was Rajdhani Base fare plus tatkal charges and fare got increased subject to the maximum cap on the positive deviation in booking pattern across the Advance Reservation Period (ARP) of the train. Other supplementary charges like reservation fee, superfast charge, catering charges, service tax as applicable was levied in full. The base price and the peak price achieved for the premium train are as under:—

Class	Base price	Peak price
AC-2tier	₹ 2910	₹ 4945
AC-3tier	₹ 2175	₹ 4085

(c) In the Railway Budget 2014-15, 17 new premium train services have been announced and these are as under:—

- (1) Howrah-Pune AC Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Nagpur, Manmad.
- (2) Kamakhya-New Delhi AC Express (Weekly) *via* Chhapra, Varanasi.
- (3) Kamakhya-Chennai AC Express (Weekly) *via* Malda, Howrah.
- (4) Mumbai-Howrah AC Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Nagpur, Raipur.
- (5) Mumbai-Patna AC Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Khandwa, Itarsi, Manikpur.

- (6) Nizamuddin-Madgaon AC Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Kota, Vasai Road.
- (7) Sealdah-Jodhpur AC Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Mughalsarai.
- (8) Yesvantpur-Jaipur AC Express (Weekly) *via* Gulbarga, Pune, Vasai Road.
- (9) Ahmedabad-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express (Tri-weekly) *via* Palanpur, Ajmer, Rewari.
- (10) Bandra-Amritsar Express (Weekly) *via* Kota, New Delhi, Ambala.
- (11) Bandra (T)-Katra Express (Weekly) *via* Kota, New Delhi, Ambala.
- (12) Gorakhpur-New Delhi Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Lucknow, Moradabad.
- (13) Katra-Howrah Express (Weekly) *via* Mughalsarai, Varanasi, Saharanpur.
- (14) Mumbai-Gorakhpur Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Khandwa, Jhansi, Kanpur.
- (15) Patna-Bangalore Express (Weekly) *via* Mughalsarai, Chheoki, Manikpur, Nagpur.
- (16) Yesvantpur-Katra Express (Weekly) *via* Gulbarga, Kacheguda, Nagpur, New Delhi.
- (17) Thiruvananthapuram-Bangalore (Yesvantpur) Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Erode, Tirupattur.

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#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

##### **Availability of foodgrains**

2952. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the per capita availability of foodgrains has decreased in the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) The per capita net availability\* of foodgrains for the year 2010, 2011 and 2012 is given below:—