

A railway division with head-quarters at Waltair is already operational under East Coast Railway.

Condition of coaches in South-bound trains

1943. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has plans to improve the quality of maintenance of trains with special mention to South-bound trains from Chennai;

(b) by when all the bad condition coaches would be replaced by new ones as the condition of coaches in all South-bound profitable trains are in ruined condition as compared to Northern ones; and

(c) whether passenger-friendly coaches, especially by improving toilets, special improvised coaches for aged and differently-abled and with providing special information in AC coaches about crossing stations, would be made available in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways always endeavors for continual improvement in maintenance and upkeep of passenger coaches including those running in South-bound trains from Chennai.

(b) Replacement of coaches on age-cum condition basis, after attaining their prescribed codal life, is an ongoing process.

(c) Improvement of passenger amenities, including in coach toilets, and for aged passengers is an ongoing process. For differently abled passengers, considering their need, specially designed compartments with amenities have been provided in Second Class cum Guard van coaches with/without luggage compartment.

Complaints regarding Konkan Railway online ticket bookings

1944. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received many complaints on the recent online Konkan Railway Corporation (KRC) reservation scam in which many natives of Konkan region who tried to book KRC route train tickets for ensuing Ganpati season, were handed over wait listed tickets numbering 302;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto;