

- (b) if so, the details of the difficulties being faced; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government to do away with above difficulties for completing the pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Stoppage of Matsyagandha Express at
Kankavali railway station**

†876. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received requests for stoppage of Matsyagandha Express' at Kankavali railway station in Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg Konkan region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government on the above requests?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Demands, regarding provision of stoppages of additional trains at Kankavali have been received. The feasibility of stoppage of additional trains at Kankavali has been examined, but have not been found operationally feasible, at present. In addition, 13 pair of Mail/Express and 02 pair of passenger trains have stoppage at Kankavali station. However, provision of stoppages is an on-going process on Indian Railways.

**General class coaches in mail/express
and superfast trains**

877. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per Railway Budget 2007-08, Railways endeavour to provide six general class coaches in all mail/express and superfast trains;
- (b) if so, the details of the mail/express and superfast trains running with less than six second sitting general coaches;
- (c) whether Government proposes to make it mandatory for all mail/express and superfast trains to run with at least six general class coaches;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) In the Railway Budget 2007-08, it had been announced that from the year 2007-08 every newly introduced train will have six unreserved second class coaches excluding fully air-conditioned and Jan Shatabdi trains. It had further been announced that efforts will be made to increase the number of unreserved second class coaches.

(b) to (e) The demand pattern of traffic is not uniform over Indian Railways. It varies from sector to sector and depends on various factors including route, timings, distance covered by the trains, the clientele, etc. There are several fully reserved Air-conditioned trains such as Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Garib Rath, Tejas, Humsafar Express services where it is not feasible to attach second class General coaches. However, to cater to the travelling needs of General Class passengers, Indian Railways operate fully unreserved services like Jan Sadharan, Janseva, Jan Nayak Express, Antyodaya Express and also augments trains with General Class coaches as per commercial viability and operational feasibility. At present, 726 pairs of Mail/Express trains, over Indian Railways, are running with less than six General Class (GS) coaches. Augmentation of trains with General Class coaches is an ongoing process on Indian Railways. Accordingly, during the years 2018-19, of the total 487 coaches that were utilized for permanent augmentation of the composition of existing trains, 123 coaches were General Class unreserved coaches.

Starting Vande Bharat Express from Ranchi to Madurai

†878. SHRI SAMIR ORAON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that passengers of Darbhanga-Hyderabad Special Train have to wait from 9 PM in night to 5 AM in morning at Ranchi station in Jharkhand due to which the condition of women, children and elderly persons become miserable;
- (b) whether it is a fact that South India bound trains from Jharkhand are very important from medical and tourism perspective;
- (c) whether the problems of lakhs of passengers can be solved by starting ‘ Vande Bharat Express’ train from Ranchi via important stations to Madurai; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.