Demand to restore Samta Express train and Mangala Lakshadweep Express train with their old timings

SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I wish to draw the kind attention of hon. Railway Minister to non-running of Samta Express (Train No. 12808) which used to run from Hazrat Nizamuddin to Vishakhapatnam at 8.35 a.m. and Mangala Lakshadweep Express (Train No. 12618) which used to run from Hazrat Nizamuddin to Ernakulam Junction, Kerala at 9.15 a.m on daily basis. These trains are not running since national lockdown in March, 2020. Though Railways have started two similar trains in the name of Festival Specials, namely, Vishakhapatnam Festival Special (Train No. 02888) and Mangala Lakshadweep Special (Train No. 02618) in lieu of Samta Express and Mangala Lakshadweep Express, the timings of these festival special trains are quite odd as both these trains depart from Hazrat Nizamuddin at 7.00 a.m. and 5.40 a.m. respectively. There are no trains on the South-bound route in peak morning hours and the only next available train on this route is at 4.00 p.m. So the timings of both the currently available trains are quite awkward, particularly, for those who travel on daily basis from Delhi to Mathura and Agra for livelihood or for pilgrimage and tourism. The facility of monthly pass of daily passengers should also be restored immediately.

Hence, I request the hon. Minister to immediately restore the old timings of Samta Express and Mangala Lakshadweep Express and start them from Hazrat Nizamuddin with their old timings, that is, 8.35 a.m. and 9.15 a.m. respectively, as was the case before lockdown, to provide relief to the harassed commuters.

Demand to include pending 13.95 lakh households of Odisha in the Permanent Waitlist under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Grameen)

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, Odisha has identified 13.95 lakh families eligible under PMAY(G) which have been left out from Permanent Waitlist of PMAY(G). Deadline fixed by Ministry of Rural Development for identification through Awaas+ was 7th March, 2019. The State could not complete this task due to pre-occupation of block functionaries in general election. Only 35,000 households could be identified through Awaas+ by the scheduled date. On the request of Odisha, the Ministry opened window of Awaas+ for a period of one month only for 14 Fani-affected districts. Odisha identified 7.87 lakh eligible households in Fani-affected districts through Awaas+ and 35,000 households of non-Fani-affected districts and completed geo-tagging and Aadhaar Seeding as mandated by Ministry. Sir, 8.22