

2. 4845/4846 Jodhpur-Ahmedabad Suryanagari Express to Bandra four days a week
3. 1269/1270 Rajkot-Bhopal express to Jabalpur *via* Bina-Katni (bi-weekly)

Frequency:

1. 1463/1464 Rajkot-Jabalpur Express from four days a week to five days a week
2. 6509/6510 Ajmer-Bangalore Express from weekly to bi-weekly.

Privatisation of Unremunerative Rail Lines

271. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have identified unremunerative rail lines for privatisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the terms and conditions laid down for privatisation of unremunerative rail lines; and
- (d) the benefits likely to accrue to the railways by privatising unremunerative rail lines?

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

(b) Does not arise

(c) Ministry of Railways is contemplating concessioning of uneconomic branch lines and not their privatisation, which means grant of permission to private operators to operate uneconomic branch lines. The terms and conditions for such concessioning are not yet finalised.

(d) The objective is to reduce losses incurred by the Railways on these unremunerative branch lines.

Budget Hotels and Rail Yatri Niwas at Tirupati

272. DR. DASARINARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: