GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2608
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024

MALDA TOWN STATION

2608. SHRI ISHA KHAN CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government is aware that Train Nos. 13033 UP & 13034 DN previously stopped at Sakopara Halt, generating 25 lakh annually in ticket sales and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has plans to resume the stoppage to generate this revenue, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government will consider re-instating the Farakka Express, a lifeline for migrant workers from Malda Town station instead of Balurghat, so that Malda District's poor labourers do not lose their Malda quota; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b)   With a view to provide better passenger safety by creating

maintenance corridor blocks, minimizing conflicts in existing time tables,

speeding up of trains, etc., Indian Railways has undertaken rationalization

of Time Table, including that of stoppages, in a scientific manner with the

assistance of IIT-Bombay. Accordingly, Sankopara station is presently served by 04 pairs of Passenger train services. 13033/13034 Howrah-Katihar Express has scheduled stoppage at Dhulain Ganga/New Farakka near Sankopara station. Besides, stoppage of train services is an ongoing process over Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of alternative services etc.

(c) and (d) The services of Farakka Express have been extended upto Balurghat to cater to needs of passengers of Balurghat. Accordingly, the reservation quota of this train has been redistributed between different railway stations keeping in view the availability of accommodation, demand pattern and extant guidelines. Besides, the distribution and review of quota is done on a periodical basis and adjustments are made, wherever required, which is a continuous and ongoing process.

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