

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3169
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
THAR EXPRESS
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Thar Express linking southern Pakistan and India has started operating;
- (b) if so, the details of its capacity and occupancy thereof;
- (c) whether the train has been incurring any losses; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to make it viable?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA)

- (a) : Yes, Sir. It has started operating with effect from 18.2.2006.
- (b) : Initially it was started with 5 GSCN (Second Class Sleeper Coach) & 2 SLR (Second Class cum luggage cum Guards brake van). With an increase in occupancy, it has been augmented to 7 GSCN, 2 SLR & 1 GS (General Second Class). Its occupancy ranges between 90-100%.
- (c) : Yes, Sir.
- (d) : All short distance passenger trains with less composition are incurring losses on Indian Railways.