

Additional Train on Bangalore-Madras Route

1511 SHRI H. C. SRIKANTIAH Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for the introduction of an additional express train on Bangalore-Madras route; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently not feasible due to resource constraints.

Electrification of Bangalore-Jolarpet Railway Line

1512 SHRI H. C. SRIKANTIAH Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when was the electrification work of Bangalore-Jolarpet Section taken up;

(b) the amount spent so far thereon;

(c) the present stage of the project; and

(d) by what time it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) December, 1988.

(b) Since beginning and upto January, 91. Rs. 24.39 crores have been spent.

(c) and (d) Electrification works are in progress and are scheduled for completion by March, 1992.

Unauthorised Travelling in Reserved Coaches

1513. SHRI MONORANJAN SUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of passengers without reservation travel in reserved second Class three tier compartments in Howrah-Delhi Kalka Mail and Howrah-New Delhi A.C. Express causing inconvenience to the bona-fide passengers; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken, proposed to be taken to stop this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS).

(a) some such cases have come to notice.

(b) The following steps have been taken to prevent unauthorised entry in reserved coaches:—

(i) Surprise checks and drives are conducted from time to time with the help of GRP and unauthorised passengers found travelling in reserved coaches are detained and fined under the provision of the Railways Act. Wherever the problem of unauthorised entry of passengers in reserved coaches is acute, coordination is established with GRP to enlist their assistance to prevent the same.

(ii) Punishments are imposed on Conductors/TTEs/Coach Attendants found responsible for dereliction of duty.

(iii) Legal provision in the new Railways Act, 1989, have been made more stringent inasmuch as a fine upto Rs. 500 has been prescribed as against Rs. 20 in the previous Act.

Expansion of Railways

1514. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had constituted a committee to go into the issue of expansion of the Indian Railways;