

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5413  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2018**

**PROMOTION OF TOURISM**

**5413. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the steps taken by the Government for connecting various tourist places across the country by rail; and**
- (b) the action taken by the Government to connect tourist destinations like Guruvayur, Tirupati and Sabarimala which are already connected by rail excluding the latter one, by operating more direct trains from different parts of the country?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

**(a): Indian Railways, in addition to regular passenger trains across its network, in association with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and select State Tourism Development Corporations, operates special tourist trains like Luxury tourist trains, Buddhist special trains, Semi-luxury trains, Bharat Darshan trains, Aastha Circuits trains, State Special Tourists trains, Steam train, Charter trains etc. connecting various tourist places across the country.**

**(b): IRCTC has operated State Special Tourist Trains, Bharat Darshan Trains and Rail Tour packages to pilgrim destinations like Guruvayur, Tirupati and Sabarimala from various cities across the country.**

**Besides, operation of additional train services for tourist to connect various destinations including pilgrim places Guruvayur, Tirupati and Sabrimala is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, competing demands etc.**

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