933. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
(a) whether the Government has observed that inspite of being a highly profitable Railway Station, connectivity to Calicut railway station is being neglected by the Railways;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken to enhance the connectivity to Calicut Railway station from various cities of the country;
(c) whether the Government has observed that rail connectivity to Bangalore from Calicut is not sufficient considering the passenger and cargo traffic in this sector, if so, the steps taken to expand connectivity to Calicut from Bangalore;
(d) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce more passenger trains between Calicut-Bangalore, Calicut-Chennai, Calicut- Trivandrum, if so, the details thereof; and
(e) whether the Government has observed that trains running through Kerala still have older railway coaches, if so, the details of steps being taken to modernise the existing railway coaches in these trains?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Kozhikode is presently being served by 114 train services connecting it to cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata etc. Further, Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai and Bengaluru are also connected with Kozhikode by 26, 4 and 2 pairs of train services respectively. Besides, introduction of trains is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic demand, availability of resources, etc. Demand/request for freight rakes is received in the Railway system in the form of indents, and rakes are supplied against these indents.

(e) Indian Railways do not operate train services on State- wise basis as Railway network straddles across State boundaries. On Indian Railways, only those coaches which are within their codal life and fit for passenger operations are used in passenger carrying trains. Besides, constant monitoring of the condition of coaches is done to ensure safety and convenience of passengers.

*****