

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.548
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2020**

STOPPAGE AT BAGDOGRA

548. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new steps are being taken to create train stoppages at Bagdogra, Naxalbari, Phansidewa, Chopra and Thakurganj.

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is aware that this route caters to the most important Agricultural, Horticultural and Animal Husbandry belt in Darjeeling Terai Region; and

(c) if so, the potential steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Ministry to address the transportation of Agricultural and Dairy products from this belt to the rest of the nation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) Provision of stoppages of trains on Indian Railways, is an on-going process, subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification, etc. Accordingly, stoppage of 15721/15722 Digha- New Jalpaiguri Paharia Express has been provided at Thakurganj station w.e.f. 10.03.2019. Further, both Bagdogra & Naksalbari are well served by 03 pairs of Mail/Express trains. However, no stations named "Phansidewa" and "Chopra" are located on Kishanganj-Thakurganj-Siliguri sector of the Northeast Frontier Railway.

(b) and (c) There is a potential for parcel traffic including agricultural products through Brake Van of train no. 15464/15720/15722. However, at present no demand has been received from any "Stakeholder/Party."
