1574. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as part of changes in the time table, the Railways has any plans to change the schedule of services of the following trains:
   I. 16381/16382 - Mumbai CST - Kanyakumari Express
   II. 12507/12508 - Thiruvananthapuram-Silchar Express
   III. 12515/12516 - Thiruvananthapuram-Silchar Express
   IV. 22659/22660 - Kochuveli-Dehradun Express
   V. 12483/12484 Kochuveli-Amritsar Jn Express;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for such changes;

(c) whether the existing schedule is likely to be retained considering the difficulties to passengers, especially from Kerala, on account of the proposed changes; and

(d) if so, the details of directions issued in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d) Indian Railways has discontinued all regular passenger carrying trains w.e.f 23.03.2020 to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and presently only special trains are being operated keeping in view the concerns and suggestions of State Governments.
As a part of time table rationalization exercise and speeding up of trains, it has been decided to change the timings of 16381/16382 Mumbai- Kanyakumari Express, 12507/12508 Thiruvananthapuram-Silchar Aronai Express, 12515/12516 Thiruvananthapuram-Silchar Express, 22659/22660 Kochuveli – Dehradun Express and 12483/12484 Kochuveli-Amritsar Express. It is operationally not expedient to reverse the change in timings.

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