Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the historical cities/places which are proposed to be connected by trains under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme of the Government;
(b) whether the Government proposes to connect the historical cities of Hastinapur and Shravasti with other major cities of the country through rail-links under the said scheme; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): Railways does not run trains under the Swadesh Darshan scheme of the Government. However, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) is operating on multiple theme based circuits across the country which connect historical cities/places viz. Ayodhya, Varanasi, Ujjain, Agra, Prayagraj, Baidyanath, Bodhgaya, Rajgir, Nalanda, Nagpur, Indore, Aurangabad, Chitrakoot, Mathura, Vrindavan, Puri, Gangasagar, Tirupati, Madurai, Rameshwaram, Srirangapatnam, Mysore, Dwarka, Ankaleshwar, Nasik, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaipur, Udaipur, Ajmer, Khajuraho, Orchha, Sarnath, Kushinagar, Sravasti, Fatehpur Sikri, Nathdwara, Nandigram, Sitamadhi, Hampi, Mumbai, Gokarana, Belur, Jabalpur, Coorg, Thanjavur.

(b) & (c): Do not arise.

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