GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2531 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024

BHARAT GAURAV TOURIST TRAIN

2531. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI MANISH JAISWAL:

SMT. HIMADRI SINGH:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details about the objectives and salient features of the Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train being run by the Railways destinations of the Bharat Gauarv Tourist Train Shri Jagannath Yatra the initiative contributed to promote the tourism and cultural development in the country;
- (b) the details of amenities on the Bharat Gaurav Deluxe AC Tourist Train for passengers comfort and safety;
- (c) the details of the appreciation letter by the travelers who have experienced the services and facilities of the said trains;
- (d) whether the launch of the said Train align with the "Dekho Apna Desh" initiative of the Government of India and if so, the role played by this train to promote domestic tourism within the country;
- (e) whether the Shri Ram-Janaki Yatra: Ayodhya to Janakpur initiative promotes bilateral relations between India and Nepal, if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Garvi Gujarat tour through the said Train help to promote India's cultural heritage, if so, the details thereof;

- (g) the steps taken by the Government to ensure uninterrupted operation and maintenance of the said trains solving the Government's commitment to provide quality services to the passengers; and
- (h) the details of special trains running for promoting Jharkhand Tourism?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (h) Indian Railways issued the 'Bharat Gaurav Trains' policy in November 2021. The objective of this scheme is to showcase India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places to the people of India and the world through Bharat Gaurav Trains. Bharat Gaurav Tourist train, "Shri Jagannath Yatra" was operated on 25.01.2023. It covered Varanasi (Kashi), Baidyanath Dham, Jagannath Puri, Bhubaneshwar, Konark and Gaya in a 7 Nights & 8 days trip.

Shri Ram Janki Yatra covers pilgrimage destinations associated with the life of Lord Ram, including Janakpur, which is located in Nepal. The tour itinerary covers Ayodhya, Nandigram, Sitamarhi, Janakpur (Nepal), Buxar, Varanasi, Sita Samahit Sthal, Prayagraj, Shringevarpur & Chitrakoot. This initiative has popularized Janakpur and has placed it as an important pilgrimage in the minds of Indians. This interconnection exemplifies the shared cultural and spiritual heritage of India and Nepal, highlighting the profound civilizational ties that unite the two nations. Such initiatives enhance people-to-people connectivity and serve to further strengthen cultural exchanges.

The "Garvi Gujarat" tour operated through Bharat Gaurav Train covers various cultural and historical destinations, like Champaner, Pavagadh, Sabarmati Ashram, Modhera Sun Temple, Rani Ki Vav (Patan), Dwarkadhish, Somnath temple, Nageshwar Jyotirlinga and modern marvels like the Statue of Unity at Kevadia and Dandi Kutir (Ahmedabad).

The Baijnath Dham at Deoghar in Jharkhand is one of the pilgrimage destinations covered in some of the tour itineraries of Bharat Gaurav Trains.

The Bharat Gaurav Deluxe AC tourist trains provide comfortable and modern passenger amenities during travel, which include a dining car, shower cubicle, onboard announcement facilities, mini library, digital lockers, foot massagers, etc.

It is the continuous endeavour of Indian Railways to ensure seamless operation and maintenance of Bharat Gaurav trains. Two maintenance staff are also deployed on board to look after maintenance issues during the journey.

Feedback from the onboard tourists is collected and constructive suggestions are taken into consideration for overall improvement in services. Indian Railways strive to provide the best of services to tourists travelling in Bharat Gaurav trains and to make their travel experience memorable.
