Sommanorama Bengaluru has room for trains to everywhere but Kerala

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by Robin T Varghese

Kochi: The Bengaluru Railway Division has put on the back burner a proposed train service to Thiruvananthapuram citing a lack of space at the stations, yet 35 trains have been rolled out to other destinations in the last three years.

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A train between Bengaluru and Thiruvananthapuram was announced in the railway budget of 2014 but the service was never started. The railway honchos in Bengaluru shifted the originating station twice, saying that they were unable to fit in a new train to the already crowded stations.

The other trains announced in 2014 have already started service, revealing the authorities' apathetic attitude towards Kerala. The Yesvantpur-Howra A/C Express started service in January 2016, while the Yesvantpur-Katra Suvidha Express and the Yesvantpur-Jaipur trains started service in January 2015.

The South Western Railway and the Bengaluru division have started 25 express trains and 10 passengers trains between 2014 and 2017. Three of them are daily services. A Bengaluru-Visakhapatnam special train has been running for two years at the time schedule fixed for the train to Thiruvananthapuram.

The authorities who swear by a space crunch in Bengaluru started a service as late as last month. The new train from Kacheguda in Hyderabad reaches Krishnarajapuram in Bengaluru every Monday morning.

Regular passengers to Kerala suspect that the delaying tactics is a bid to help the private bus lobby to fleece the travelers to Kerala.

Here is the list of trains that began service from Bengaluru since 2014:

Hubli-Bangalore-Mysore Vishwamanava (Daily, May/17)

KR Puram-Kacheguda Spl (Weekly, May/17) YPR-Mangalore Gomateshwara (Triweekly, Apr/17) Yeshwantpur- Hassan Intercity (Daily, Mar/17) Sriganganagar - Trichy Humsafar (Weekly, Feb/17) Yeshwantpur- Howrah HumSafar (Weekly, Jan/17) Kamakhya - Bengaluru Cantt. Humsafar (Weekly, Dec/16) Yeshwantpur - Visakhapatnam Special (Weekly, Oct/16) Bangalore - Shivamogga Town (Triweekly, Jan/16) Yeshwantpur- Sambalpur Suvidha (Weekly, Jan/16) Howrah - Yeshwantpur AC (Weekly, Jan/16) Yeshwantpur- Tatanagar (Weekly, Feb/15) Yeshwantpur- SMVD Katra Suvidha (Weekly, Jan/15) Yeshwantpur- Jaipur Suvidha (Weekly, Jan/15) Yeshwantpur- Shivamogga Town (Triweekly, Dec/14) Mysore-Bangalore-Varanasi (Biweekly, Dec/14) Yeshwantpur-Bikaner, (Biweekly, Dec/14) Yeshwantpur-Harihar InterCity (Triweekly, Nov/14) Yeshwantpur-Barmer AC (Weekly, May/14) Yeshwantpur-Puducherry (Weekly, Mar/14) Yeshwantpur-Lucknow (Weekly, Mar/14)

Yeshwantpur-Hyderabad Kacheguda (Triweekly, Mar/14)

Yeshwantpur-Kamakhya AC (Weekly, Feb/14)

Bengaluru–Nagercoil (Sheshadri) (Daily, Feb/14)

Bengaluru Cantt-Hatia, (Weekly, Feb/14)

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