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**ಕೆನರಾ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ**

ಚೇಂಬರ್ ಬಿಲ್ಡಿಂಗ್, ಬಂದರು, ಪಿ.ಬಿ. ನಂ. 116, ಮಂಗಳೂರು, ಭಾರತ - 575 001.

**KANARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

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CIN : U91990KA1940PLC001135

**Ref No: 2023-24/0130**

**2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024**

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw,  
Minister of Communications, Railways,  
Electronics and Information Technology,  
Electronics Niketan, 6,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi -110 003.

Respected Sir,

Sub: KCCI seeks immediate withdrawal of extension of KSR  
Bengaluru-Kannur trains via Mangaluru Central (16511/512)  
to Kozhikode station.

We are extremely concerned with the newspaper report about the extension of Bengaluru – Kannur - Bengaluru Express trains via Mangaluru Central to Kozhikode. Initially, this train was operating overnight between Yeshwantpur and Mangaluru Central since its introduction in 2007. In 2009, it was extended to Kannur (Kerala state), much to the disappointment of Karnataka passengers, and the public greatly opposed it. Kozhikode was being served well by train no. 16527/528 Yeshwantpur Daily Express. The people of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts have expressed their shock and agony with the government's decision by putting forward their following concerns to be immediately taken into account by the railways.

- 1) People are already struggling to get reserved train seats to travel to and from Bengaluru. The current plan to extend the train to Kozhikode has further added to their agony, considering many of the citizens travel to and from Bengaluru for their business, medical, and leisure activities. It will severely reduce the berth/seat availability to passengers from the Karnataka coast. Districts of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi are also considered to be major education hubs in India, and many students are also from Bengaluru and neighbouring places.
- 2) The unreserved coaches become full before the Bengaluru bound train enters Mangaluru station.

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- 3) Further, the train has been the only mode of transport for the people of the coastal region during monsoon as landslides at Shiradi and Samphaje ghats snap the road connectivity to and fro Bengaluru. The proposed extension of the train will further add to their inconvenience.
- 4) The soaring prices of bus fares have already burnt the pockets of commuters travelling to and from Mangaluru, and with this extension of trains up to Kozhikode station in Kerala, the people of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts will be left with no option but to depend on the road transport as seats in the trains would get filled soon with additional passengers from Kozhikode and Kannur stations. It would also translate to more buses on the streets, causing more traffic congestion, environmental issues and road safety issues and with more demand, prices of bus tickets would further skyrocket!
- 5) The aged, fragile and sick passengers would face severe brunt of this shock. Commuting by road is not only tiring, unsafe, and expensive, but it is a huge inconvenience for the usage of toilets, especially for the aged and sick people.

We therefore call for your immediate attention in cancelling this order for the benefit of the people of this region **or immediately introducing specific trains between Mangaluru and Bengaluru stations**. We hope you will reconsider your decision for the benefit of the people of the coastal region and bring a sigh of relief to the passengers from this region who are already suffering.

We anticipate quick action from your end.

Yours faithfully,  
For **KANARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

**ANANTHESH V. PRABHU**  
**DIRECTOR / PRESIDENT**  
**DIN 07327024**

Cc: Affiliated bodies of KCCI.

**Affiliated to:**

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi. | Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Bengaluru.

Confederation of Indian Industry (Southern Region), Bengaluru/Chennai. | Bangalore Chamber of Industry & Commerce, Bengaluru. | Indian Merchants' Chamber, Mumbai.

**For Mediation, Arbitration, Conciliation contact:**



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