

**Web-based tatkal booking by ticket agents**

2247. SHRI B. S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had decided to bar web-based ticket agents of IRTC from getting access to tatkal bookings from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. as it has caused difficulties to the individuals;
- (b) if so, whether Government would propose to stop web-based tatkal bookings by ticket agents permanently;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) The agents are meant to facilitate ticket-booking to those individuals who do not have access to internet.

**Tatkal reservation scheme**

2248. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Tatkal Reservation Scheme was commenced in late 1990s with additional coaches however they were slowly withdrawn and 10 per cent of all berths were moved into Tatkal Quota;
- (b) whether this decision had a huge impact on the availability of tickets under the general normal quota; and
- (c) whether the number of berths under the tatkal scheme increased from 5.6 per cent in 2005-06 to 14.60 per cent in 2008-09 thereby encroaching upon the general quota without investment in any additional coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. In the initial Tatkal Reservation Scheme introduced in December 1997, accommodation was to be earmarked by adding an additional coach.