Dynamic fare system

2375. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have announced to introduce dynamic fare system for all trains and all classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons and rationale therefor;

(c) whether Government is aware that poor people and middle class cannot afford dynamic fares in Railways which is mainly used by them for travel; and

(d) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal to extend the concept of dynamic fare/variable fare system on all types of trains. However, over and above the regular time tabled trains, the concept of Suvidha/Premium Special trains with variable/dynamic fares have already been introduced. Besides this, with effect from 01.10.2014, in some of the selected trains identified by Zonal Railways which are most in demand, 50% of the existing accommodation under tatkal Quota has been earmarked as Premium Tatkal Quota and is being booked on dynamic pricing.

(c) and (d) Indian Railways cater to various segments of the travelling public and accordingly operates different types of services like suburban services, passenger services and Mail/Express services, which include Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duronto, Yuva and Garib Rath services etc. Running of Suvidha Trains (earlier, premium trains) during peak seasons do not displace these regular services but complement them by providing a facility for travel at short notice by paying higher fares. The passengers have the option of travelling in regular Mail/Express and Passenger trains by paying the normal fare.

Resource mobilisation measures

2376. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways' deficit is likely to increase in the coming years if no additional resource mobilisation measures are initiated;

(b) if so, whether Railways' financial problems are likely to worsen in view thereof; and