

the peak and lean seasons. The demand for travel surges especially during the peak season like summer holidays, festivals etc. During the Financial Year, 2016-17 (upto February 2017), the TOTAL number of passengers booked was 7525.08 million which is 0.71% more than the number of passengers booked during the corresponding period of last year. The number of passengers booked in reserved segment during this period was 475.24 million which is 3.33% higher than the number of passengers booked during the corresponding period of last year. Further, there has also been a growth of 2.53% and 2.45% in the TOTAL number of passengers booked in Shatabdi and Rajdhani trains respectively during the period April, 2016 to February, 2017 as compared to corresponding period of last year. The overall occupancy of Shatabdi and Rajdhani trains during the period from February 2015 to January 2017 is 77.58% and 96.89% respectively as under:—

Train type	No. of Berths	No. of Passengers	%age Occupancy
Shatabdi Exp. trains	312,02,897	242,08,275	77.58
Rajdhani Exp. trains	207,11,080	200,66,868	96.89

Model railway stations in Bihar

†*173. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations selected for being developed as model railway stations in Bihar;

(b) the number of railway stations proposed to be selected for development under the category of model railway stations during the next three years;

(c) the number of such stations where renovation work has been completed; and

(d) by when the renovation work of all the selected stations would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) The 'Model Station' scheme was in vogue between June, 1999 and November, 2008. 594 stations including 55 stations in Bihar were identified and developed under 'Model' Station Scheme. The names of 55 stations identified in Bihar under the Model Station Scheme are as under:—

Bihar (55) Akshayawat Rai Nagar, Anugrah Narayan Road, Ara, Arariya Court, Barauni, Barh, Bariarpur, Bakhtiyarpur, Begusarai, Bettiah, Bhabua Road, Bhagalpur,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Biharsharif, Buxar, Chhapra, Dalsinghsarai, Dehri On Sone, Danapur, Darbhanga, Gaya, Hajipur Jn, Jamalpur Jn., Jamui, Janakpur Road, Jhajha, Katihar, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Kiul, Lakheesarai, Madhubani, Mananpur, Mokama, Motihari, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Nayagaon, Narkatiaganj jn., Nawadah, Patna Jn., Patna Sahib, Phulwarisarif, Purnea jn., Rajendra Nagar (T), Rajgir, Raxaul, Saharsa, Sagauli jn., Sasaram, Samastipur, Sheikhpura, Sitamarhi, Siwan Jn., Sonepur and Sultanganj.

At present, stations are undertaken for development under Adarsh Station scheme and 1253 stations, including 59 stations in Bihar, have been identified for development under this scheme. The names of 59 stations identified in Bihar under the Adarsh Station Scheme are as under:-

Bihar (59) Abhaipur, Anugraha Narayan Road, Ara, Arariya, Arariya Court, Bairstania, Bajpatti, Barauni Jn., Barsoi Jn., Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Biharsharif, Chhapra Jn., Dumra, Dumraon, Forbesganj, Garhpura, Ghogha, Ghora Sahan, Hasanpur Road, Hisua, Jamalpur, Janakpur Road, Jehanabad, Jiradai, Jogbani, Kahalgaon, Kharik, Kishanganj, Madhubani, Maheshkhut, Mansi Jn., Narainpur, Naugachia, Nawadah, Patna Sahib Jn., Rafiganj, Sahpur Patori, Salauna, Sheikhpura, Shivnarayanpur, Sasaram Jn., Simraha, Simribakhtiyarpur, Sitamarhi, Sultanganj, Supaul, Tehta, Thakurganj, Thanabihpur, Warsaliganj. Chakia, Makhdumpur, Buxar, Jamui, Narkatiyaganj, Harinagar, Bagha and Dharhara.

(b) The provision of upgraded amenities is a continuous and on-going process. Selection of Railway stations for inclusion under the Adarsh Station Scheme is based on an identified need for upgradation of amenities at stations. More stations may be considered for inclusion under Adarsh Station Scheme whenever there is any proposal for further selection of more stations under this scheme based on the relative importance of the station and justification based on passengers handled at the station.

(c) All 55 Stations selected under Model Station Scheme from Bihar have already been developed. Out of 59 stations selected under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme from Bihar, 33 stations have been developed. The name of these 33 stations are as under:-

Abhaipur, Anugraha Narayan Road, Ara, Arariya, Arariya Court, Barsoi Jn., Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Bihar Sharif, Chhapra Jn., Forbesganj, Ghogha, Hasanpur Road, Jamalpur, Janakpur Road, Jehanabad, Jiradai, Jogbani, Kahalgaon, Kishanganj, Madhubani, Mansi, Naugachia, Patna Saheb, Rafiganj, Sahpur Patori, Sasaram Jn., Shivnarayanpur, Simraha,

Sitamarhi, Sultanganj, Thakurganj and Thanabihpur.

(d) Out of 1253 Railway stations identified under Adarsh Station Scheme, 1017 Railway stations have already been developed and the remaining stations are planned to be developed by 2017-18.

Further, in recent past, Indian Railways have taken various steps to improve the services for the passengers at stations and in the trains, some of which are as under:-

(i) Redevelopment of stations

It is planned to offer 'A-1' and 'A' category stations (407 stations) for redevelopment on 'as is where is' basis by inviting open bids from interested parties with their designs and business ideas. Based on studies undertaken by the Strategic consultants, M/s Boston Consulting Group (BCG), it was decided to launch 23 stations for bidding in the first phase.

Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) has been awarded Development Contract for Habibganj station for which financial closure has been achieved and preparatory work started. Contract for redevelopment of Gandhinagar station and construction of 300 room hotel on the station's air-space has been awarded. Bidders for redevelopment of Anand Vihar and Bijwasan stations have been shortlisted and Financial bids have been invited. MOU for development of an integrated Multi-Modal Hub at Surat including redevelopment of Surat railway station and Bus Terminus was signed between IRSDC, Gujarat State Road Transport Corporation and Surat Municipal Corporation in August, 2016 for which Request for Qualification (RFQ) have been opened. Further, Master Plan and detailed Feasibility Reports for redevelopment of Chandigarh & Shivajinagar (Pune) stations have also been prepared.

(ii) Adarsh Station

191 numbers of stations have been developed under Adarsh Station Scheme from 2014-15 till date.

(iii) Provision of Foot Over Bridge (FOBs)

42 Foot Over Bridges have been completed from 2014-15 till date.

(iv) PRS cum UTS counters

In order to facilitate cancellation of PRS counter tickets at relatively smaller stations, one of the Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) cum PRS counters

(wherever PRS booking facility is available) has been earmarked for granting refund beyond the working hours of PRS counters/Current counters. This facility is available in respect of PRS counter tickets for those trains whose scheduled departure time is within the next 24 hours.

(v) Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendras (YTSK)

For convenience of passengers in getting tickets, 160 Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendras have been established through public private partnership for issuing of reserved and unreserved tickets.

(vi) Currency Operated Automatic Ticket Vending Machine (CoTVM)

Currency Operated Automatic Ticket Vending Machine (CoTVM) have been provided to facilitate purchase of unreserved journey tickets. Till date, 450 CoTVM have been commissioned at around 250 Stations.

(vii) Point of Sale (PoS) machines

Around 4,000 Point of Sale (PoS) machines have been installed at various locations of Indian Railways to facilitate payments through Credit/Debit cards.

(viii) Platform Ticket through Mobile Application

The facility of paperless platform ticket on Mobile application has been launched at major stations over suburban sections of Western Railway, Central Railway, Eastern Railway, South Eastern Railway, Southern Railway, South Central Railway and Northern Railway (New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway stations).

(ix) Mobile application for reserved ticketing

IRCTC mobile application for reserved ticketing called Rail- connect has been launched with additional features on Jan 10, 2017.

(x) Mobile application for unreserved ticketing

New UTS mobile application with more number of payment options has been launched on Jan. 10, 2017.

(xi) Cancellation on 139/IRCTC website

Passengers can get Counter Tickets/Paper Tickets issued on Railway Counters cancelled by calling/sending SMS at 139/IRCTC website and claim refund later on as per their convenience.

(xii) Lifts/Escalators

Till date, about 369 escalators and around 183 lifts have been provided at Stations.

(xiii) Wi-Fi facility at stations

Wi-Fi facility has been provided at present at 115 Stations till date 28.02.2017.

(xiv) Online booking of retiring room

The facility of online booking of retiring room has been provided at 488 Railway stations. Further, for convenience of passengers, a pilot project for a period of six months has been launched in Western Railway for booking of Retiring Room as well as dormitory for minimum duration of 3 hrs except for night booking where the booking is done mandatorily from 2100 hrs to 0900 hrs. The hourly booking service is operational at a few major stations viz. Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Surat. The tariff is being charged on hourly basis.

(xv) Janani Sewa

Janani Sewa has been launched keeping in mind the need of food for babies in Railway premises. The baby foods, hot milk are being made available at all major stations on payment basis.

(xvi) E-catering services

E-catering services are provided at 357 stations out of proposed 408 A1 & A Category Stations.

(xvii) Food Plazas/Fast Food

102 Food Plazas/Fast Food Units have been commissioned in last three years. At present total 220 Food Plazas/Fast Food Units are operational at various railway stations on Indian Railways.

(xviii) Water Vending Machines

With the objective to make available potable drinking water to passengers at affordable price at stations, around 1100 Water Vending Machines have been provided at 400 stations. Water is available at ₹1/- for 200 ML, ₹ 3 for 500 ml, ₹5 for 1 Ltrs & ₹ 8 for 2 Ltrs through these Water Vending Machines.

(xix) Disposable Bed Rolls through IRCTC Portal

The disposable bedrolls can be bought from the Indian Railway Catering and

Tourism Corporation's website through credit, debit or prepaid cards, or counters at these stations. A bedroll kit packed in a non-woven fabric bag consisting of two cotton bed-sheets and one pillow is available at a cost of ₹140. A blanket kit packed in a non-woven bag consisting of one blanket cost ₹110. The pilot project to provide disposable bed rolls has been started at 7 stations *i.e.* New Delhi, Nizamuddin, Mumbai Central and CSTM, Chennai Central, Trivandrum and Bangalore. Any passenger having confirmed ticket can avail this facility from the time of ticketing up to 4 hours prior to scheduled departure of train and delivered in train.

(xx) E-wheel chair

The facility of online booking of e-wheel chair has been provided by Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC) from Aug 2015. The e-wheel chairs can be booked for maximum one hour. The facility of online booking of e-wheel chairs is available at 22 stations of Indian Railways. The facility is presently available at 22 stations.

(xxi) Battery Operated Cars (BOC)

The facility of 80 Battery Operated Cars (BOC) is available at 54 stations of Indian Railways for the convenience of senior citizens, physically challenged persons etc.

(xxii) Free insurance

Indian Railways is providing free insurance of ₹10 lakhs for tickets booked online up to March 31, 2017.

(xxiii) Discount on season tickets booked through digital means

IR is providing 0.5% discount on Season Tickets purchased through digital means with effect from 1st January, 2017.

(xxiv) Discount on digital payments for services

IR is providing 5% discount on payment made on line for availing services like e-catering, online booking of retiring rooms etc. with effect from 1st January, 2017.

(xxv) Clean My Coach

The Indian Railways has started a new service called Clean My Coach to provide cleaning services on the running train. The On Board House keeping service on

the train will facilitate the cleaning of coaches. Passengers can demand the cleaning of the coaches and can avail this service at any time by sending an SMS at a designated number.

(xxvi) Single Person Accountability for All Facilities on a Train

Under the scheme, the Train Superintendent (TS) has been made single person responsible for all facilities on train. All railway personnel and Supervisors of all out sourced agencies report to the TS for effective control and supervision to ensure improvement in onboard services offered by Railways. Sr. DCM (Chg)/ Delhi division acts as "Product Manager" for all Rajdhani services starting from and terminating in Delhi area.

National Policy of Food Processing

*174. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is formulating a National Policy of Food Processing, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry is holding consultations with stakeholders for the formulation of this Policy, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time period set for constituting the Expert Group to formulate the Draft National Policy of Food Processing?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry is in the process of formulating a National Food Processing policy for overall growth and development of the food processing industry with an overarching goal of providing remunerative return to farmers and reducing wastages. It also suggests steps to be taken up by the States/Union Territories to achieve these goals. The objectives of the National Food Processing Policy include creation of adequate infrastructure facilities along the supply chain to ensure better prices for farmers and enable delivery of affordable and quality produce to consumers. The policy also aims to generate more opportunities for the development of the food processing industry, create employment and to position India as the preferred investment destination. A comprehensive National Food Processing Policy would be an effective step to catalyse investments and optimize growth in the sector.

(b) and (c) Ministry has conducted a consultation on National Food Processing