

- (ii) The tool considers the high waitlist scenario of Holiday rush.
- (iii) It displays the trend of last waitlist ticket got confirmed for the same journey during previous year.
- (iv) Prediction of dynamic probability is based on current status.

Currently this feature is integrated with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) website only. In IRCTC website this feature is operational w.e.f. 13 June, 2018 as under:

- (i) When the user is doing the booking transaction, and if the status of accommodation availability of the input journey is waitlisted, then the user can check the probability of confirmation.
- (ii) At the time of PNR enquiry of waitlisted ticket, the user can check the probability of confirmation. This facility is not available without login. Further, prediction is based on past trend analysis and gives fairly good probability of right waitlist prediction.

VIKALP scheme for train passengers

2039. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the VIKALP scheme introduced by Government has been received well by the train passengers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the procedure/follow up adopted by Government under VIKALP scheme to provide alternate train with confirmed ticket in next 12 hours and 24 hours of intended travel by passengers; and
- (d) the number of passengers to whom confirmed tickets have been provided in alternate trains since the inception of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With a view to provide confirmed accommodation to waitlisted passengers and also to ensure optimal utilisation of available accommodation, an Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme (ATAS) also known as "VIKALP" has been introduced on Indian Railways. Under this scheme, waiting list passengers can choose

maximum of 7 alternate trains running within 72 hours from the journey date and time. The response to 'VIKALP' has been good as large number of passengers are opting for this scheme.

(c) At the time of preparation of first reservation chart of the passenger's original train, the VIKALP opted passenger who is not confirmed in the original train itself is transferred in the chosen alternate train in the same class subject to availability. After transferring, SMS (Short Message Service) is sent to the passenger informing about the new train/date, etc. No fare difference is charged or refunded if passenger is transferred in different train type. Passenger is marked as cancelled in original train. Passenger's name appears in the charts of the alternate trains.

(d) This scheme was introduced in November 2015. During the financial year 2015-16 (November 2015 to March 2016) only one passenger was shifted whereas in financial year 2016-17, 73 passengers were shifted. Keeping in view the poor response, the scheme was modified in the year 2017 and in financial year 2017-18 and 2018-19 (upto June 2018) a total of 16291 and 4533 passengers respectively have been provided confirmed accommodation under this scheme.

Revised programmes for station redevelopment scheme

2040. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was not so encouraging response to Government's Station Redevelopment Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to formulate any revised programme for station redevelopment;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) Indian Railways had advertised its plan to offer 'A-1' and 'A' category stations on Indian Railways for redevelopment on 'as is where is' basis, by inviting open bids from interested parties duly providing for amenities and other requirements of the Railways. The cost of station redevelopment was to be met by