

Differential fares for booking rail tickets

†1394. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to keep differential fares for the rail tickets being booked 120 days before the date of journey as per rule and those being booked 90 days, 60 days and 15 days before the journey; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Government proposes to give priority or concession in fares to the passengers booking tickets earlier?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, flexi fare scheme has been introduced in certain Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto trains. Under this scheme, the fare increases by 10% with every 10% of berths sold subject to maximum limit of 1.4 times. Flexi fare is not applicable in the fare of 1st AC and Executive class of Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto trains. Under this scheme, if passengers book early, they pay lower fare than those who book late.

Apart from this, the following different fare products based on the different booking schedule are already applicable over Indian Railways:—

- (i) Normal fare structure for normal accommodation (Maximum advance reservation period to preparation of first chart).
- (ii) Tatkal fare (One day in advance).
- (iii) Premium tatkal fare in certain trains (one day in advance).
- (iv) 10% discount is given on vacant berths/seats after preparation of first chart in all trains.

(v) Graded discount has been introduced in Flexi fare trains where class-wise occupancy is less than 60%, 4 days prior to scheduled departure of the train, as under:—

Occupancy	Discount
Up to 70%	20% on last fare
70% to 80%	10% on last fare
Above 80%	Nil

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.