

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 773
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2022

UNAVAILABILITY OF SEATS ON BUSY ROUTES

773. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 1.60 crore passengers who had bought tickets could not travel because they were waitlisted, indicating a shortage of trains on busy routes; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS &
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) & (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 773 BY SHRI SANJAY RAUT ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 22.07.2022 REGARDING UNAVAILABILITY OF SEATS ON BUSY ROUTES.

(a) & (b): It is a fact that during the financial year 2019-20, names of approximately 1.6 crore fully waiting list e-ticket passengers were dropped from the reservation charts. However, it is also a fact that on Indian Railways, demand pattern of reserved accommodation is not uniform throughout the year and it varies over lean and peak periods. Moreover, trains running on popular and convenient timings with lesser stoppage and running time are generally well patronized and also experience waiting list almost throughout the year. However, other trains not having one or all these features are chosen by passengers for travel as a second alternative.

Further, to cater to the needs of passengers and generate additional accommodation for travelling passengers, Indian Railways introduce new services, extends services, increases their frequencies, augments load, which are ongoing processes, subject to operational feasibility, resource availability, competing demands etc. In addition, to cater to the extra rush of passengers during festive seasons, vacations etc., operation of special trains and temporary augmentation of trains are also undertaken.

In addition, to provide confirmed reserved accommodation to those passengers who have to travel at short notice, Tatkal Reservation Scheme has been introduced in which reservation opens at 10.00 hours and 11.00 hours on the previous day of journey from the train originating station for air conditioned and non air conditioned classes respectively. Waiting list passengers have also been given option to travel by alternate trains by opting for Alternate Train Accommodation scheme known as “VIKALP”.
