

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.05.2010
ANSWERED ON
TATKAL RESERVATION SCHEME .

4744

Shri B.K. Hariprasad

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Tatkal Reservation scheme was launched in late 1990s with additional coaches in trains marked T-1, T-2 etc. and whether in late 2003-04 these additional coaches under Tatkal Seva were slyly withdrawn and 10 per cent of all seats were moved into Tatkal Quota;
- (b) whether this decision had a huge impact on the availability of tickets under the general normal quota; and
- (c) whether the number of seats under the Tatkal scheme increased from 5.6 per cent in 2005-06 to 14.60 per cent in 2008-09 thereby encroaching upon the general booking quota, without investment in any additional coaches?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) Tatkal Scheme was initially introduced in December 1997 on a few trains by attaching additional coach and the same was defined in computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS) as separate train by suffixing word "T" to the train number. The Tatkal Scheme was comprehensively reviewed in 2004 and revised Tatkal scheme was introduced extending the same to Sleeper, Air-conditioned Chair Car, AC- 3 tier, AC- 2 tier classes in all Mail/Express trains including Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Jan Shatabdi Express trains by earmarking the following accommodation as Tatkal:-

AC-2tier 4 berth per coach

AC- 3 tier 6 berths per coach

AC Chair Car 6 seats per coach

Sleeper Class 10% of the accommodation or one coach whichever is less.

The Tatkal coaches running in the trains were, however, included in the train service composition.

(b): Since the revised Tatkal scheme was extended to all Mail/Express trains including Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Jan Shatabdi Express trains and in various classes, the availability of general accommodation got reduced to that extent. However, the Tatkal quota so earmarked was also available for the general passenger with the only difference of comparatively reduced Advance Reservation Period.

(c): Based on the demand pattern, the berths/seats under Tatkal scheme were increased in phases on certain trains during the period from 2004-05 to 2008-09 resulting in increased percentage. Simultaneously, general reservation quota also increased during this period on account of introduction of new trains, increasing the frequency & augmenting the load of existing trains etc., which required investment in production of additional coaches.