

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1103
ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023

REDUCTION OF TRAIN FARES

1103 #SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways has slashed rates of train tickets of some classes in July, 2023;
- (b) if so, details of such trains/classes;
- (c) whether Government would consider reducing the rates of tickets of General and Sleeper Class in view of the fact that the common man finds himself financially capable of traveling in these classes; and
- (d) the number of trains from which General and Sleeper Class coaches have been removed during last five years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1103 BY SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 28.07.2023 REGARDING REDUCTION OF TRAIN FARES

(a) to (c): Indian Railways strives to provide affordable services to all strata of society and gave subsidy of ₹59,837 crore on passenger tickets in 2019-20. This amounts to concession of 53% on an average, to every person, travelling on Railways. This subsidy is continuing for all passengers. Fare rationalization is a continuous process to optimize utilization of travel accommodation in trains. In 2019, Zonal Railways had been delegated power to introduce discounts up to a maximum of 25% of basic fare in AC chair car and Executive class over certain segments after analyzing the travel trends for all competitive modes in the region and estimating the future occupancy potential. The same provisions have been extended with some minor modifications vide instructions on 08.07.2023.

(d): Indian Railways keep a close watch on passenger rush and waiting list of passengers and accordingly makes temporary and permanent augmentation of existing trains and operates special trains subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources etc. In the last five financial years, during peak season, especially during the summer vacations, winter vacations, festival season etc., a total of 4126 coaches were augmented on permanent basis & 361078 coaches were attached on temporary basis.
