

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1393
ANSWERED ON 06.12.2024

PROBLEM OF OVERCROWDING IN TRAINS RUNNING FROM BIHAR

1393 # DR. BHIM SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a problem of overcrowding in trains originating from Bihar, if so, the measures that have been taken to deal with the said problem and the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government has any plan to increase the number of trains originating from Bihar in view of a large number of waitlisted tickets in the trains going to Bihar, if so, the details of the proposals received zone-wise, division-wise along with the response of the Railway Board to the said proposals?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING 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) AND (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1393 BY DR. BHIM SINGH ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 06.12.2024 REGARDING PROBLEM OF OVERCROWDING IN TRAINS RUNNING FROM BIHAR.

(a) & (b) On Indian Railways, demand pattern is not uniform throughout the year and it varies over lean and peak periods. During peak rush periods, the occupancy of the trains especially on popular routes remains full whereas during lean period and on less popular routes, there is sub-optimal utilization.

As the Railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are introduced as per network requirement, across such boundaries. However, during the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25 (till 31.10.2024), 30 pairs of train services including 09 pairs of Vande Bharat and one pair of Amrit Bharat services have been introduced, 15 pairs of train services have been extended and frequency of 02 pairs of trains services have been increased as on originating/Terminating basis from the stations located in the State of Bihar.

Further, to provide additional accommodation to travelling passengers, IR also operates Special train services during festivals, holidays, etc. and augments the load of trains including that with Sleeper Class Coaches, both on permanent and temporary basis, to cater to additional demand. Accordingly, during the year 2024, 13523 trips of special trains were operated to meet the extra rush of passengers during Holi and summer vacation. To cater to the rush during Durga Pooja/Dipawali/Chhath, 7990 trips of Special trains have also been operated during the period 1st October, 2024 to 30th November, 2024, to serve approximately 1.8 crore passengers. Furthermore, Indian Railways have introduced Amrit Bharat services, which have modern State-of the Art technology and are equipped with advanced features like Semi-Permanent couplers for jerk free travel, horizontal sliding windows, foldable snack table and bottle holders, mobile holders etc. These services, which are fully non-AC trains, presently comprising 12 Sleeper Class Coaches and 8 General Class coaches, are providing high quality services to the passengers. Besides, introduction of train services, including Vande Bharat trains, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability etc.
