

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3286
ANSWERED ON 28.03.2025

PLAN TO INTRODUCE MORE UNRESERVED TRAINS

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of unreserved passengers who travel daily on Indian Railways, along with the details of revenue generated from unreserved ticket sales over the past five years;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any study or received complaints regarding overcrowding and lack of basic amenities in general compartments, if so, the details thereof, and;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to introduce more unreserved passenger trains or increase the number of general coaches in existing trains, especially in high-demand routes, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) During the year 2023-24, on an average, 1.88 crores passengers travelled daily on Indian Railways which includes 1.66 crores unreserved passengers. The total revenue earned from passenger services during last 5 years (2019-20 to 2023-24) is ₹2,39,241 crores which includes ₹55,383 crores from unreserved passengers.

To handle overcrowding in coaches, traffic pattern of the trains running on Indian Railways is monitored on regular basis and to cater to additional demand, load of existing trains is augmented, special trains are run, new trains are introduced, frequency of existing trains is increased etc. subject to operational feasibility.

The amenities presently provided in reserved/unreserved coaches are as under:

- Provision of comfortable seats and cushioned luggage racks.
- Fire-extinguishers with anti-theft arrangements.
- Enhanced mobile charging facility.
- Wide horizontal sliding windows.
- Provision of vestibules at the end of coaches.

Besides, Indian Railway has introduced complete non-AC Amrit Bharat Trains which are equipped with modern features and passenger amenities like Semi-Permanent couplers for jerk free travel, horizontal sliding windows, foldable snack table and bottle holders, mobile holders etc. Further, new and improved version of Amrit Bharat Trains are also being manufactured with the following additional features:

- Improved design of Toilets.
- Emergency Talk Back Unit.
- Improved LED Light fitting & Charging Sockets.
- Improved design of Ladder for ease of climbing on to the berth.
- USB Type-A and Type-C mobile charging sockets.
- Provision of CCTV system.

To provide greater accommodation for the passengers using General and non-AC Sleeper Coaches, the extant policy regarding composition of Mail/Express trains provides for 12 (Twelve) General class & Sleeper class non-AC coaches and 08 (eight) AC-Coaches, in a train of 22 coaches, thereby providing greater accommodation for the passengers using General and non-AC Sleeper Coaches. Newly introduced fully Non AC Amrit Bharat trains comprise of 12 Sleeper Class coaches and 8 General Class coaches.

In addition to Mail/Express trains, Indian Railways also operate unreserved non-AC passenger trains / MEMU / EMU etc. for affordable travel.

Presently, there are about 79,000 coaches being utilized for running train services. The details are as under:

Class	No. of coaches
General and Non-AC Sleeper	~56,000 (70% of total)
AC coaches	~23,000
Total	~79,000

To generate additional accommodation for different segments of passengers, additional coaches are also added to existing trains on a permanent and temporary basis. Details of additional coaches attached on a permanent basis during the last two years are as under:

Year	No. of Additional coaches attached
2023-24	872
2024-25 (Till February, 25)	983

With a view to augment the accommodation and for the benefit of passengers travelling in unreserved coaches, about 1,200 General Class coaches have been attached in the Mail/Express trains operating with LHB coaches during the current financial year 2024-25. Keeping in view increased demand of the passengers travelling by Non-AC coaches, IR has planned to manufacture 17,000 General Class/Sleeper Class Coaches.

In addition to the various types of regular trains, Indian Railways also operates Special train services during festivals, holidays, etc. to cater to the extra needs of passengers. The details of special trains operated during the year 2024 and year 2025 (till February, 2025) are as under:

Event	No. of train trips	No. of Passengers served
Maha Kumbh-2025	17,340	4.24 cr
Durga Pooja/ Deepawali / Chhath, 2024	7,990	1.1 cr
Summer vacation,2024	12,919	1.8 cr
Holi,2024	604	8.6 lakh
