

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1447
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.12.2017**

FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS

†1447. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways operates one way special passenger trains keeping in view the extra festive rush of passengers in various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways has to bear the loss on account of return operation of such trains due to one way movement of the crowd and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in the absence of proper assessment of crowd the passengers have to face lot of problems every year due to heavy rush and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to constitute a special cell to solve the problems arising every year in order to take proper decision and ensure the responsibility; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) Special trains are, normally, operated on a to and fro basis to clear extra rush of passengers traffic keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources. However, Indian Railways operates one way special trains only in emergent situation like for clearance of unexpected extra rush to avoid any untoward incidents, to clear passenger affected due to derailment of trains, for the rescue of accident affected train passengers etc. Moreover, all sincere efforts are made to achieve optimum revenue from every special train service.

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(b) Train-wise figures of profitability, earning and expenditure are not separately maintained. Therefore, the details of loss/profit on account of return operation of such trains are not available.

(c) to (e) Analysis of occupancy pattern of trains is done on regular basis. On those sectors, where there is heavy unsatisfied demand, subject to operational feasibility, efforts are made to augment the load of existing trains or to run special trains to meet the seasonal rush. Fully unreserved trains are also run to cater to unreserved traffic during the rush period.

During festivals like Chhath etc. holding areas for passengers are created within station premises outside the ticketing area to ease the rush at the ticketing counters and platforms and facilitate easy procurement of tickets by sale of tickets in such areas. Further, Zonal Railways have been authorized to increase the charge of platform tickets or to stop the sale of platform tickets during the festivals in order to reduce the crowd at the platforms. Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel are also deployed to regulate entry of passengers in unreserved coaches during the rush period.
