

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1499
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.12.2017**

SUPERFAST TRAINS

1499. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of trains categorised as superfast trains;**
- (b) whether certain mail and express trains have been upgraded to superfast trains in 2017 and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there has been an increase in fares of those trains categorised as superfast trains and if so, the details thereof along with the speed at which the superfast trains operate;**
- (d) whether any superfast trains have been unable to attain average 55 Kmph speed on broad gauge and if so, the details of the same;**
- (e) whether any delays in the running of superfast trains have been noted during the months of July 2017 to October 2017; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a): As on date, 1082 trains have been categorized as Superfast trains.

(b): Yes, Madam. During the year 2017-18, 48 trains have been upgraded as Superfast trains.

(c): As per policy, the trains whose average speed in the entire run in both Up and Down direction is minimum 55 Kilometre per hour on the Broad Gauge and minimum 45 Kilometre per hour on the Metre Gauge are designated as Superfast trains. Nominal premium amount is charged as Superfast charge in such Superfast trains.

(d) to (f): Yes, Madam. During the period from 01.07.2017 to 31.10.2017, out of 70577 train trips of Superfast trains, 19452 train trips reached destination late by more than 15 minutes. However, some trains out of the delayed trains may not have been able to attain average speed of 55 Kilometre per hour on Broad Gauge. These trains got delayed due to the factors related to Railways' internal working as well as external factors, of which Railways are not in control. Other than asset failures, various constraints/difficulties which adversely affect punctuality are numerous such as – line capacity constraints on account of increasing passenger and freight traffic, adverse weather conditions (fog, rains, breaches), intermittent natural calamities such as floods, cyclones, heavy rains, heavy road traffic at level crossing gates across the Indian Railways network, multi faceted law and order problems, miscreant activities such as theft of Railway assets, mid-section run over cases involving cattle and humans etc. Large number of track maintenance works and infrastructural works are being undertaken all over Indian Railways leading to excess speed restrictions.
