

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1592
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.12.2017**

INCREASE IN PASSENGERS

**†1592. SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:
MOHAMMED FAIZAL:
SHRI RAM CHARAN BOHRA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways has undertaken any assessment regarding increasing number of rail passengers in the country particularly between Delhi and Mumbai;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether special trains are being run to deal with the increase in the number of rail passengers and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether special fare is being charged from passengers travelling by said trains and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and**
- (e) whether the Government is reviewing the increase in fares and if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken in this regard so far?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The increase in passenger traffic on Indian Railways and particularly between Delhi and Mumbai is 0.68% and 0.99% respectively during the Financial Year 2017-18 (April, 2017 to November, 2017) as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

(c): Indian Railways endeavours to operate special trains during peak seasons, festivals, special events for clearance of extra rush of passenger traffic keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources. Running of special trains on various sectors is a continuous process.

(d): Special trains on special charges are introduced based on demand pattern. Special trains run over and above the scheduled time-tabled trains are charged at the rate of 10% of basic fare for second class for reserved accommodation and 30% of basic fare for all other classes, subject to minimum and maximum.

Apart from above, Suvidha trains are introduced based on the demand pattern. Minimum fare of Suvidha trains is equal to Tatkal fare applicable for the class of accommodation for initial 20% of the berths and thereafter the fare increases for subsequent slabs of 20% of seats/berths booked subject to maximum three times of the Tatkal fare.

The second class accommodation of above trains can be declared as reserved or unreserved and charging is made accordingly. In case of unreserved second class accommodation the fares as applicable to normal superfast Mail/Express trains are applicable.

Special trains on special charges and Suvidha trains are introduced based on the demand pattern. The fares of these trains have been kept higher since special efforts like monitoring of waiting list position of each and every trains, arrangement of rakes and coaches, required staff etc., at short notice are made for running of these services. Apart from this, operational cost of running of passenger train services is increasing year after year and the passenger fare is highly subsidized.

(e): At present, there is no such proposal.

