

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 179
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.03.2018**

STOPPAGES OF TRAINS

***179 DR. A. SAMPATH:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any criteria for fixing stoppages of various trains at different stations and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) if not, whether the Government intends to fix such criteria and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether instances of violation of criteria have been noticed during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government intends to lay down new criteria/re-fix the existing criteria for stoppages; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 179 BY DR. A. SAMPATH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.03.2018 REGARDING STOPPAGES OF TRAINS

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. At present, Indian Railways have a policy on stoppage of trains. Some of the important criteria are as under:-

(1) Total sale of tickets at the station for both Up and Down directions distance wise, class-wise & cost wise.

(2) Traffic pattern at the station

(3) Availability of alternative services, convenience and occupancy of existing services.

(4) Nature of train and occupancy in question

(5) Passing time of the train in question at the station where stoppage is under consideration.

(6) Operational constraints- effect on the line capacity of the section and punctuality of other services

The policy guidelines which encompasses both the operational and commercial aspects for provision of stoppage of trains *inter alia* stipulates that the minimum number of tickets to be sold at the station so as to recover the cost of stoppage (which ranges from ₹ 12,716/- to ₹ 24,506/- depending upon traction, composition and other factors) should be 40 or more tickets per day per train for sleeper class for a distance of 500 kms or its equivalent in terms of cost for mixed class of passengers like AC, General and distance (multiple of 100 kms) toward/from destination/originating stations of the train. The policy also stipulates that no additional stoppage to be provided in sections having capacity utilization above 90%. Additionally, population and significance of the town/city and new

developments thereat, are other factors taken into account while considering provision of new stoppages.

(c) No, Madam. However, large number of consistent requests are received for provision of stoppages of trains at various stations. Experience suggests that most of the requests do not meet the extant commercial parameters stipulated in the policy guidelines for provision of stoppages. Generally, in those cases where the overall running time is not impacted by the provision of additional stoppage, Indian Railways, with due approval of the Competent Authority, resorts to provision of experimental stoppages for limited period with the dual intent to meet the aspirations of travelling public as also to gauge the volume of traffic.

(d) & (e) No, Madam. At present, there is no such proposal.
