

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 743
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2018**

FARE IN FESTIVE SEASONS

**743. SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:
DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that the Government has constituted a committee to review the fares for various trains during festival seasons and levy additional charges for allotment of lower berths, etc. and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether it is also fact that the committee has submitted its report to the Government;**
- (c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the committee;**
- (d) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations made by the said committee; and**
- (e) if so, the time by which the recommendations are likely to be implemented?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 743 BY SHRI P. NAGARAJAN AND DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.02.2018 REGARDING FARE IN FESTIVE SEASONS

(a) to (e): An eight member Committee comprising General Manager/West Central Railway, Principal Financial Advisor/East Central Railway, Executive Director Passenger Marketing, Railway Board, Executive Director Traffic Commercial (Rates), Railway Board, Advisor (Transport)/Niti Aayog, Executive Director/Revenue Management & Marketing Automation/Air India, Director/Revenue/Le Meridian and Professor of Transport Economics/Walchand Hirachand was constituted to review the flexi fare scheme.

The terms of reference of the committee was to examine all options and recommend best option keeping in mind interest of passengers and Railways. The committee was mandated to examine the following issues:

Impact of implementation of flexi fare in its current form with respect to:

- (i) Impact on Revenue generated for Railways.**
- (ii) Impact on Passenger in terms of their choice of railway as means of transport (with increased fare).**
- (iii) Competitiveness of flexi fare viz-a-viz other means of transport.**
- (iv) Amendment/modification if any in**
 - Flexibility of rates in peak and lean season/week days and weekend/festival season.**
 - 'Add on' if any to be provided with flexi fare for better patronage of the scheme like loyalty points/deferred benefits etc.**
 - Any other aspects deemed fit by the committee.**

- (v) Fare of special trains like Humsafar etc. also to be reviewed.**
- (vi) Implementability of suggestions.**

The Committee has submitted its report on 16.01.2018. Important recommendations are to rationalise the Flexi fare scheme based on the occupancy of the trains and also offer discounted fare in trains having low occupancy. The Report along with recommendations has been put up for consideration of the Board.
