

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2504  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018**

**LUXURY TRAINS**

**2504. SHRI P.C. MOHAN:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number and details of luxury trains operated by the Railways and the income earned by these luxury trains during the last three years and the current year;**
- (b) whether these trains have incurred losses and if so, the reasons for such losses;**
- (c) whether the Railways is issuing complementary or free passes to various categories of people;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the steps taken by the Railways to improve the revenue of these luxury trains?**

**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.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2504 BY SHRI P.C. MOHAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 01.08.2018 REGARDING LUXURY TRAINS**

**(a): Presently, Indian Railways operate 5 luxury tourist trains namely Palace on Wheels, Heritage Palace on Wheels (started on 29.12.2017), Deccan Odyssey, Golden Chariot and Maharajas' Express in association with State Tourism Corporations (STCs) / Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC). The income earned by these trains during last 4 financial years is as under:**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Number of Trips operated</b>	<b>Number of Passengers travelled</b>	<b>Occupancy %</b>	<b>Revenue earned (in Cr. ₹)</b>
<b>Palace on Wheels - Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation</b>				
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>35.71</b>
<b>2015-16</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1739</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>33.47</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1373</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>27.11</b>
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1498</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>27.59</b>
<b>Deccan Odyssey - Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation</b>				
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5.10</b>
<b>2015-16</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5.60</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>9.51</b>
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>52.5</b>	<b>12.76</b>
<b>Golden Chariot - Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation</b>				
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>5.47</b>
<b>2015-16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>4.74</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>5.49</b>
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>41.34</b>	<b>2.61</b>
<b>Maharajas' Express - Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation</b>				
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1229</b>	<b>57.42</b>	<b>47.58</b>
<b>2015-16</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1013</b>	<b>51.68</b>	<b>45.79</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>39.31</b>	<b>41.38</b>
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>40.18</b>	<b>42.11</b>
<b>Heritage Palace on Wheels - Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation</b>				
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>21.15</b>	<b>0.21</b>

**(b): Palace on Wheels, Heritage Palace on Wheels and Golden Chariot are operated on a revenue sharing basis whereas Deccan Odyssey and Maharajas' Express are operated against payment of haulage charge or revenue sharing arrangement by respective tourism corporations leaving the actual profit / loss to the respective corporations. Indian Railways are only an operator of these trains and do not maintain any profit / loss account for these trains separately. Ticketing and marketing of these luxury tourist trains is the exclusive responsibility of the concerned STCs / IRCTC. Indian Railways have no role in the marketing of these trains or provision of on-board services.**

**(c) and (d): Indian Railways permit railway officers to travel on these trains for purpose of inspecting in detail all aspects of train operations and passenger amenities and to provide new innovative ideas to improve the services provided on these trains.**

**(e): Promotion of luxury tourist trains is the responsibility of respective train operating tourist corporations / IRCTC. In order to make these trains more popular, from time to time, respective State Tourism Corporations / IRCTC take steps like additional commission / discount / incentives to travel agents / tourist, participation in travel marts, advertisement / publicity in media etc. However, Indian Railways in order to make operation of these trains financially viable, permitted Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC) and Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) to run Heritage Palace on Wheels and Golden Chariot trains respectively on revenue sharing basis vide Board's letters dated 17.11.2017 and 31.01.2018. In addition, policy of haulage charge for the luxury tourist trains has also been liberalized and existing haulage charges have been reduced by 50% flat in March 2018 for promotion of tourism.**

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