

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3640
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.01.2019**

INCREASE IN FARES

†3640. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has increased passenger fares during the last four years;**
- (b) if so, the details therefor;**
- (c) if not, the manner in which the government proposes to manage rising expenditure of trains; and**
- (d) the efforts being made by the Government to avoid such situation?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3640 BY SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02.01.2019 REGARDING INCREASE IN FARES

(a) & (b) The passenger fares have not been increased since 25.06.2014.

However, the minimum chargeable passenger fare for Second Class Non-suburban services was increased from ₹ 5 to ₹ 10 to bring it at par with the rate of platform tickets from 22.11.2015.

(c) & (d) Government has tried to manage the rising operating expenses of railways by containing the revenue expenditure to the barest minimum and raising Railways' revenue receipts of which passenger earnings are a part.

Earnings enhancing measures, inter alia, include targeting progressively higher traffic throughput, periodic rationalization of fare and freight rates, effective and innovative marketing strategies to capture more and more traffic, creation of additional capacity and optimum utilization of the existing rail infrastructure including rolling stock, enhancement in productivity and efficiency, improvement of passenger interface and focus on increasing the share of non-fare revenue sources in Railways' earnings. Other measures to enhance revenue are: introduction of Flexi Fare system in higher category of trains i.e. Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto trains. In view of special attempts/ arrangements made for running of special train services during peak period, higher fares have

been fixed for running of special trains. Suvidha trains are introduced on variable fare structure during the peak seasons depending on the demand pattern. Humsafar Express, Tejas Express, Antyodaya Express and Mahamana Express have been introduced on higher fare on cost recovery basis. The endeavor is to realize higher fare for better facility trains and continue to provide service at affordable and economic rates to common man.

Expenditure control measures include strict economy and austerity measures, improved man-power planning, better asset utilization, inventory management, optimizing fuel consumption etc.
