

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 247
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.07.2019**

PASSENGER TRAINS

***247. DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to rope in private players to run passenger trains and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether in 2018, the United Nations in its report criticised widespread privatisation of public goods in societies and concluded that it leads to elimination of human rights and furthers marginalisation of the poor and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) whether in 2017, the Government had ruled out privatisation of Indian Railways and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether private players are not interested in the projects that require heavy investments like laying of railway tracks, etc. and if so, whether the objective of the private firms is to exploit the resources of Indian Railways and maximise their profits, if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and**
- (e) whether private players are only interested in the already developed infrastructure of the Railways and are looking to just provide services and charge exorbitant amounts in return and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(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. 247 BY DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE
TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 10.07.2019 REGARDING
PASSENGER TRAINS**

(a) No specific passenger trains have been identified to be run by private players, so far. However, with a view to providing world class services to travelling passengers, Indian Railways are examining various options, including private participation in the operation of passenger carrying trains.

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. A report submitted to the United Nations General Assembly in September 2018, highlighted the challenges presented by large scale privatization to protection of human rights. However, there is no proposal to privatize Indian Railways.

(d) & (e) Projects for providing first mile and last mile connectivity to Ports/Mines/Industrial Clusters from existing Indian Railways network have been taken up on participative policy of Public Private Partnership (PPP), wherein strategic partners including Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), State Governments and Private Industries have come forth and invested in Joint Venture Special Purpose Vehicle (SPVs).
