

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1005  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023**

**EXCLUSIVE TRAINS FOR PATIENTS**

**1005. MS. MIMI CHAKRABORTY:**

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

**(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways fails to confirm tickets for patients travelling from North-Bengal of West Bengal to Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and other medical hubs;**

**(b) if so, the average number of tickets that are issued/sold and got confirmed during the year 2022 from stations of Coochbehar, New Jalpaiguri, Katihar, Farakka, Malda to Vijayawada, Chennai, Katpadi, Bengaluru and reverse reservations therein, month-wise; and**

**(c) the proposal of the Government to run exclusive trains for patients to have treatment from such destinations?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1005 BY MS. MIMI CHAKRABORTY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.02.2023 REGARDING EXCLUSIVE TRAINS FOR PATIENTS.**

**(a) & (b) : On Indian Railways, reserved tickets are issued on first come first serve basis. Initially, confirmed tickets are issued and thereafter RAC/waiting list tickets are issued. The status of a RAC/waiting list ticket gets updated against the cancellation of tickets issued prior to such tickets and also on account of release of accommodation of unutilized reservation quota at the time of preparation of first reservation charts. Moreover, on Indian Railways, demand pattern of reserved accommodation is not uniform throughout the year and it varies over lean and peak periods. It is applicable to all trains including those serving the passengers travelling from North Bengal of West Bengal to the stations falling in Southern parts of India.**

**Waiting list position of trains is monitored on regular basis and to cater to demand, efforts are made to provide additional reserved accommodation, subject to operational feasibility. Schemes like Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme known as VIKALP and Upgradation have also been introduced to provide confirmed accommodation to the passengers including patients. Further, patients can also approach nearest Emergency Quota (EQ) controlling authority to get their waiting list tickets confirmed out of EQ where such requests are considered along with others as per provisions of extant guidelines. In addition, Cancer patients and their attendant booking reserved tickets across computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters of Indian Railways have been given direct access to the Emergency Quota to the extent of 2 berths/seats each in first class (FC), Air Conditioned 2 tier (2A), Air Conditioned 3tier (3A) and Air Conditioned Chair Car (CC) classes and 4 berths in Sleeper class. Separate cancer patient quota has also been earmarked in certain identified trains. Separate data regarding number of tickets issued to patients and its confirmation out of Emergency Quota is, however, not maintained.**

**(c) : There is no such proposal on running of exclusive trains for patients to have treatment.**

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