

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3503
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023**

VIKALP SCHEME

3503. SHRI N. REDDEPPA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the alternate train accommodation scheme –VIKALP;**
- (b) the objectives of the same;**
- (c) the total number of waitlisted passengers who were provided accommodation under the same;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes a pan country roll out of the said scheme; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(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. 3503 BY SHRI N. REDDEPPA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.03.2023 REGARDING VIKALP SCHEME

(a) to (e): With a view to provide confirmed accommodation to waitlisted passengers and also to ensure optimal utilization of available accommodation, the Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme (ATAS) known as 'VIKALP' was launched in 2016. This scheme is available on Indian Railway on pan India basis. The details of alternate train accommodation scheme are as follows:

- (i) Under this scheme, Waiting list passengers can give choice to opt for ATAS scheme. The passengers have the option for getting shifted to a train whose time of departure is upto 72 hours from the date and time for which the original ticket has been booked. The passengers who have not opted for VIKALP at the time of booking can also opt for VIKALP upto 24 hours before scheduled departure of train.**
- (ii) The scheme is applicable to all waiting list passengers irrespective of booking quota and concession.**
- (iii) Neither any extra charges are taken from passenger nor is any refund provided for difference of fare.**
- (iv) ATAS opted passengers who remain fully Waitlisted at the time of preparation of first reservation chart, are considered for allotment in the alternate train.**
- (v) Either all passengers of a PNR or none is transferred to alternate train in same class.**
- (vi) Waitlisted passengers of original train are not allowed to board the original train if allotted alternate accommodation.**

The total number of waitlisted passengers who were provided accommodations under this scheme in Financial Year 2022-23 (up to Feb-23) is 43,803.