

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3300
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023**

LOSS INCURRED BY VACANT BERTHS

3300. SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of loss incurred in a year by Railways on account of vacant berths in the trains;**
- (b) whether the Railways has any plans to introduce discount on vacant seats/berths after the preparation of charts in all trains;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the mechanism worked out for this purpose;**
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to introduce fare system of airlines in Railways in case tickets are booked by the passengers months before and if so, the details of the provision for rebate being made/likely to be made in percentile terms;**
- (e) whether due to exorbitant increase in the fares in Railways, the first and second class berths remain vacant in almost all the trains; and**
- (f) if so, whether the Government proposes to rationalize the rail fares?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3300 BY SHRI C.N ANNADURAI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.08.2023 REGARDING LOSS INCURRED BY VACANT BERTHS.

(a) to (f): On Indian Railways, occupancy pattern of trains is not uniform throughout the year and it varies over lean and peak periods. During peak rush periods, the occupancy of the trains especially on popular routes remains full whereas during lean period and on less popular routes, there is sub optimal utilization. During the financial year 2022-23 and 2023-24 (upto June 2023) overall occupancy of reserved accommodation has been more than 100%. Indian Railways strive to provide affordable services to all strata of society and gave subsidy of ₹ 59,837 crore on passenger ticket in 2019-20. This amounts to concession of 53% on average, to every person, travelling on Railways. This subsidy is continuing for all passengers. Further, fare rationalization is a continuous process to optimise the utilization of travel accommodation in trains.
