Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that train fare has been recently increased manifold during the festival season under Dynamic Fare system which was more than flight/air fare due to which many common and poor people have severely suffered and were unable to travel to their hometown to celebrate festivals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for increasing the fare under Dynamic Fare system;

(d) whether any complaints have been received from any forum/railway users forum to abolish this ticketing system and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Ministry is likely to take necessary action to abolish Dynamic Fare in all trains to all destinations to enable the poor to undertake journeys; and

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 141 BY SHRI M. SELVARAJ AND DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 13.12.2023 REGARDING DYNAMIC FARE TICKETING SYSTEM

(a) to (f): No fare rationalization has been done in recent past. Indian Railways always strives to provide affordable services to all strata of society. Accordingly, it operates different categories of train services to cater to the travel needs of various sections of society which include trains with lower fare to give benefit to underprivileged section of the society and also trains with enhanced facilities.

In addition to the regular time tabled train services, which are operated on regular fare, Indian Railways also operates special trains to clear extra rush during festival/peak demand period.

Moreover, Indian Railways gave subsidy of ₹59,837 crore on passenger tickets in 2019-20. This amounts to concession of 53% on an average, to every person, travelling on Railways. This subsidy is continuing for all passengers.

Feedback regarding various passenger related policies including passenger fare is received continuously through various forums such as passenger associations, consultative committees at station, division, zonal levels etc. Further, passenger fare rationalization is an ongoing and continuous process based upon inputs received from various channels.

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