

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2645
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2019**

FLEXI FARE

2645. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that while flexi fare has helped Railways to generate more income, it also led to reduction in number of passengers because of higher fare;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there is any plan to review the scheme of flexi fare; and**
- (d) if so, how far the passengers would get benefited by the initiative?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

*** * * * ***

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2645 BY SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.12.2019 REGARDING FLEXI FARE

(a) & (b): No, Sir. Number of passengers booked in the trains having flexi fare has registered an increase of 0.95% for the period September 2016 to August 2018 (Two full year Flexi Fare period) as compared to corresponding period of previous years (Two full year non Flexi Fare period).

Further, overall occupancy of Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Durgam Chattrapatti trains has registered a continuous increase since the inception of Flexi Fare. The details are as follows:

Financial Year	% Age Occupancy of Flexi Fare Trains
2016-17 (Sept to March)	81.36
2017-18	83.56
2018-19	86.53
2019-20 (upto October)	88.97

The scheme since its inception has generated an additional earnings of ₹2923 crores up to October 2019.

(c) & (d): Based on the feedback from different quarters, a committee was constituted to review the Flexi Fare scheme. Further based on the committee's recommendations and the other representations, the matter has been examined and flexi fare scheme has been rationalised as under:-

(i). Discontinuation of Flexi fare scheme from 15 trains fully and from 32 trains during pre defined lean period of 3 months (February, March & August).

(ii). Maximum cap of flexi fare scheme has been reduced to 1.4 times in all flexi fare applicable classes.

(iii). Graded discount has been introduced in flexi fare trains where class-wise occupancy is less than 60%, 4 days prior to scheduled departure of the train as under:-

Occupancy	Discount
Up to 70%	20% on last fare
70 to 80%	10% on last fare
Above 80%	Nil

The above have been implemented for the journey commencing on or after 15.03.2019.
