

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.478
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.11.2019**

PRIVATIZATION OF TRAINS

**478. SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:
DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:
SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:
SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI:
SHRI A. RAJA:
SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:
SHRI M. SELVARAJ:
SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:
SHRI S. VENKATESAN:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is mulling over to allow other corporates to commence luxury rail within the country like Tejas Express;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government has formed an Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) to identify more routes for private train operators across the country and whether 24 potential routes have been identified;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise including Tamil Nadu;**
- (e) the time by which the Government is planning to invite bid from interested and qualified entities;**
- (f) whether it has been opposed in some of the States and if so, the details thereof along with Government's stand thereon; and**
- (g) Whether the fares of train tickets would increase as a result of privatization and if so, whether subsidies would be retained to citizens travelling in these routes from various categories in Railway and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

- (a) to (g) Ministry of Railways have constituted a Group of Secretaries (GoS) with a term of one year *inter-alia* to permit**

private passenger train operators to operate trains with world class technology over Indian Railways Network, with the following broad term of reference:-

- i. Approval of the bidding process along with Bid documents and**
- ii. Monitor the bidding process and to take decisions to ensure the award of projects in a time bound manner.**

As of now, the GoS has held three meetings and as such, Modalities regarding routes, fare structure, subsidies, etc. have not been finalized. There have been a few representations from the two recognized Railway Staff Federations along with their affiliated Trade Unions and other Trade Unions in Zonal Railways about privatization of passenger trains.
