

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4102
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2020**

FLEXI FARE SYSTEM

†4102. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the seats which remained vacant in the trains under Flexi Fare System during the last eight months, i.e., from July, 2019 to February, 2020;**
- (b) whether the Government has contemplated upon the reasons behind the seats remaining vacant in the trains under Flexi Fare System;**
- (c) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to fill such seats in the said trains; and**
- (d) whether the Government is likely to consider giving concessions in the fare to the elderly, the differently abled and patients travelling in trains under Flexi Fare System?**

ANSWER

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

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4102 BY SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.03.2020 REGARDING FLEXI FARE SYSTEM

(a) and (b) During the eight months period from 1st July 2019 to 29th February 2020, approximately 28.93 Lakh berths remained vacant in Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto type trains having flexi fare. Two months, in this period are lean period in which the occupancy of all trains generally remains low.

Average occupancy of flexi fare trains for the above period from 1st July 2019 to 29th February 2020 is 86.30%.

However, it is submitted that 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 as compared to corresponding period of previous years (Two full year non Flexi Fare period). Further, overall occupancy of Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto 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

(c) Based on the committee's recommendations and other representations, the matter was examined and Flexi fare scheme in Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Durgam Cheruvu trains has been rationalized with effect from 15.11.18 for journey commencing from 15.03.2019 as under:-

(i) Discontinuation of Flexi fare scheme from 15 trains for full year 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

(d) Senior citizen, male/transgender of age 60 years and above and Female senior citizens of age 58 years and above are already entitled for concession in the basic fare in all classes of Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Durgam Cheruvu trains. The element of concession is 50% for female senior citizens and 40% for male/transgender senior citizens. Orthopaedically handicapped/Paraplegic persons who cannot travel without an escort, Mentally retarded persons who cannot travel without an escort and Persons with visual impairment with total absence of sight are also eligible for 25% concession on the basic fare in 3AC and AC Chair Car of Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains.

At present there is no proposal to further extend concession to Patients in Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Durgam Cheruvu trains.
