

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1679
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.09.2020**

INTRODUCTION OF PRIVATE TRAINS

1679. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of private trains Government is planning to introduce in the next five years;**
- (b) whether the Government is also planning to reduce the number of Government employees in the Railways on account of privatisation; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the mechanism proposed for employment of government employees in these privately operated trains?**

ANSWER

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

(a) Ministry of Railways (MoR) has invited applications for investment and induction of modern rakes over select routes through Public Private Partnership (PPP) to provide world class services to the passengers. As part of this initiative, MOR has issued 12 Requests for Qualification (RFQs) on 1st July, 2020 for operation of passenger trains over approximately 109 origin-destination pairs (divided into 12 clusters) through PPP on Design, Build, Finance and Operate (“DBFO”) basis. The routes are spread across the entire Indian Railway network and the list is available in the public domain namely, <http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/IndicativeRoutesfor12clusters.pdf>. The responsibility of train operations and safety certification rests with Indian Railways.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The existing passenger train services shall not be affected by the operation of passenger train services through PPP mode. These services to be operated through PPP mode shall be additional trains and aimed at increasing the availability of train services to the public. As such, the interest of employees working for the operation of existing train services over Indian Railways is not likely to be affected. Further, in order to protect the interest of the employees, it has been decided that the Crew (Drivers and Guards) required for operation of trains through PPP mode shall be provided by Indian Railways.

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