FARE RISE IN TRAINS

†1450. SHRI NAYAB SINGH:
DR. RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints or information wherein it has been reported that the train fare is more than flight fare;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the passengers are travelling by flight due to fare rise in trains;

(d) if so, whether the railway revenue has gone into deficit due to this and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government is contemplating to provide air travel facility instead of trains to the Railway officials in order to resolve this issue and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1450 BY SHRI NAYAB SINGH AND DR. RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 10.02.2021 REGARDING FARE RISE IN TRAINS

(a): Yes, Sir. Certain representations comparing airfare with railway fare have been received.

(b) & (c): Railways and Airlines are different modes of transport, which are not comparable in the terms of volume, connectivity as well as convenience.

There is no fixed maximum limit of fare in Airlines whereas Railways have fixed maximum fare throughout the year. Airline fare varies significantly depending on time of operation, stoppages, travel duration, Origin – Destination pair, carrier etc. Railways’ fare may or may not be higher than the air fare depending upon the class of travel as well as factors like peak/lean periods. It is the choice of the passengers to opt either for Railway or Airlines as per their convenience and requirement. Railway also serves a large number of passengers boarding/de-boarding at intermediate stations.

(d): No, Sir. The revenue from passenger Services during 2017-18 and 2018-19 (Pre Covid period) has shown improvement as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passenger service</td>
<td>48643.14</td>
<td>51066.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(e): No, Sir.

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