GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4621
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2021

FIXING OF FARE AFTER BIDDING PROCESS

4621. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private sector participating in operation of passenger train services over 109 Origin Destination are free to fix fares after passing the competitive bidding process without consulting the Government;

(b) if so, whether the trains will be owned by private investor but operated by drivers and guards of Indian Railways;

(c) if so, in case of any railway accident, on whom will the responsibility be fixed;

(d) the number of tracks in 109 Origin Destination pairs that are capable of holding a speed of 160km per hour;

(e) whether IRCTC will be participating in the bidding process that has been called for by the Ministry of Railways; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) Under the Project for operation of over 150 pairs of passenger train services via PPP mode, the Concessionaire shall be permitted to charge market determined fares.

(b) The Concessionaire shall procure and make available the Trains for the Concession Period including through ownership or leasing from the sources of its choice, provided such trains and locomotives are compatible with specification and standards specified in the Concession Agreement. The Crew (Drivers and Guards) required for operation of trains through PPP mode shall be provided by Indian Railways.

(c) In case of any accident, the responsibility will be fixed as per the enquiry report following the extant rules of Indian Railways.

(d) At present, only New Delhi-Agra route is capable of running trains at 160 kmph.

(e) and (f) The participants to be selected through transparent bidding process, including IRCTC, have bid for different clusters planned for induction of 150 modern rakes(divided into 12 clusters) to run over select routes through Public Private Partnership (PPP).

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