

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 135
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2021**

RESERVATION OF SEATS THROUGH BIOMETRIC MACHINES

†*135. DR. RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated a scheme to reserve seats through biometric machines installed outside general coaches;**
- (b) if so, the trains wherein such arrangement has been implemented and the trains wherein such arrangement is proposed to be made;**
- (c) the trains originating from Etawah wherein such arrangement has been made; and**
- (d) in case such arrangement has not been made so far in the trains originating from Etawah, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be made?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 135 BY DR. RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 28.07.2021 REGARDING RESERVATION OF SEATS THROUGH BIOMETRIC MACHINES

(a) to (d): No, Sir. Reservation of seats in general coaches of train is not being done through Bio-metric machines. However, an initiative was taken before the onset of pandemic COVID-19 by Railway Protection Force at some originating stations to use Biometric Token Machines for the purpose of better queue management as a pilot project for the passengers boarding general coaches of selected long distance trains. The work on pilot project has halted post restoration of train services with effect from May 2020 as all seats/berths including seats in general coaches are treated as reserved seats and are booked through Passenger Reservation System accessed by public through Reservation Counters and IRCTC Portal. Since unreserved passengers are not being permitted to travel at present, queue formation to get seats in unreserved coaches on first come first serve basis is no longer required.
