

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1574
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024**

WAITING LISTS FOR SEATS IN TRAINS

1574. SHRI T R BAALU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that in most of the trains' there are waiting lists for seats/berths and has become a daily feature due to the acute shortage of passengers carrying capacity of express trains; and

(b) if so, the details of actions taken by the Government and planned to augment the carrying capacity of passenger trains in the country and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) & (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1574 BY SHRI T R BAALU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.12.2024 REGARDING WAITING LISTS FOR SEATS IN TRAINS

(a) & (b) On Indian Railways, the demand pattern of reserved accommodation is not uniform throughout the year and it varies over lean and peak periods. Moreover, trains running on popular and convenient timings with lesser stoppage and running time are generally well patronized. Waiting list position of all the trains running on Indian Railways is monitored on regular basis. In order to cater to additional demand, Indian Railways also operates Special train services during festivals, holidays etc. and augments the load of trains to generate additional accommodation for different segments of passengers, both on permanent and temporary basis. Accordingly, during the year 2024, 13523 trips of special trains were operated to meet the extra rush of passengers during Holi and summer vacation. To cater to the rush during Durga Pooja/Dipawali/Chhath, 7983 trips of Special trains have also been notified during the period 1st October, 2024 to 30th November, 2024 to serve approximately 1.8 crore passengers. During the year 2023-24, 872 coaches have been utilized for augmentation of train services on a permanent basis while during the year 2024-25(till October, 2024), 664 coaches have been utilized for permanent augmentation.

Schemes like Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme known as VIKALP and Upgradation have also been introduced. In VIKALP, confirmed accommodation in alternate train is provided to the eligible passengers who have opted for the same. In upgradation scheme, waiting list passengers of lower class are provided confirmed accommodation in the higher class if there is a vacant accommodation in higher class at the time of charting.
