

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2660
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024**

CUT OF ADVANCE TICKET RESERVATION PERIOD

**2660. SHRI DINESHBHAI MAKWANA:
SMT. APARAJITA SARANGI:
SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of reduced advance ticket reservation period in Indian Railways;**
- (b) whether the new rule improves ticket availability for genuine passengers and reduces instances of cancellations and no-shows and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is a fact that due to server down during Tatkal ticket booking, common people are not able to get tickets and agents and mafia people benefit from this; and**
- (d) if so, the plans formulated by the Government to stop this and to make Tatkal tickets easily available to the general public?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

(a) & (b): With effect from 01.11.2024, the Advance Reservation Period (ARP) for booking reserved tickets in most of the Mail/ Express trains has been reduced to 60 days excluding the date of journey. In certain day time Express trains like Taj Express, Gomti Express, etc, lower time limits for advance reservations was already in force. This change has been made keeping in view the booking trend and also to reduce the cancellations due to unforeseen events.

(c) & (d): On Indian Railways, the demand pattern is not uniform throughout the year and it varies over lean and peak periods. During peak rush periods, the occupancy of the trains especially on popular routes remains full whereas during lean period and on less popular routes, there is sub optimal utilization. This is applicable for general as well as Tatkal accommodation. However, the following steps have been taken to reduce the scope of misuse of Tatkal accommodation:-

- i. All authorised ticketing agents of Indian Railways/IRCTC have been restricted from the booking Tatkal tickets between 1000 hours and 1010 hours for tickets in AC classes and between 1100 hours and 1110 hours for non-AC classes.**
- ii. Keeping in view the short Advance Reservation Period and with a view to make this scheme economically unviable for unscrupulous elements/touts, refund rules of the scheme have been made stringent in which no refund is granted on the confirmed Tatkal tickets.**
- iii. In case of tickets booked under Tatkal scheme, during the journey, one of the passengers booked on that ticket is required to produce any one of the prescribed proofs of identity, failing which all the passengers booked on that ticket are considered as travelling without ticket and charged accordingly.**
- iv. The facility of change of name is not permitted on the bookings made under Tatkal scheme.**
