

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2665
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024**

CURB BLACK MARKETING OF TICKETS

2665. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has reduced the time for booking of railway tickets in advance to curb black marketing of tickets;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the railways has issued the notification in this regard;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which it is likely to be done; and**
- (e) the other measures taken/being taken by the Government to curb the black marketing of railway tickets and facilitate the travellers who want to plan their train journey in advance?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) 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. Accordingly, instructions have been issued vide Commercial Circular No. 10 of 2024 dated 16.10.2024.

This change has been made keeping in view the booking trend and also to reduce the cancellations due to unforeseen events.

(e) In order to curb the misuse of reservation system by unscrupulous elements, a number of preventive and punitive measures have been introduced by Indian Railways. Some of the important initiatives taken in this regard are as under:

- i. Regular checks are conducted in mass contact areas such as Passenger Reservation System (PRS) centers, Booking Offices, Platforms, Trains etc. to prevent unauthorized ticketing activities. Such checks are also intensified during peak period like festivals, holidays etc.**
- ii. General public are also educated through Public Address System and media, not to buy tickets from unscrupulous elements and consequences of buying tickets from these sources.**
- iii. Regular drives are conducted by Railway Protection Force(RPF) personnel against touts over Indian Railway and action is taken against persons found involved as per the provisions contained in the Railways Act. Cases having wider ramifications and involving ingredients of other offences are dealt in coordination with other law enforcement agencies like Police & Central Bureau of Investigation.**
- iv. Regular Cyber patrolling through cyber cells of RPF is done to prevent activities of unscrupulous elements/touts using illegal software and action is taken against them as per extant legal provisions.**
