

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3855
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024**

MISUSE OF RECOMMENDATION LETTERS FROM MPS

**3855. SMT. D K ARUNA:
SHRI EATALA RAJENDER:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are receiving recommendation letters from various dignitaries like VIPs including Hon'ble Union Ministers, Hon'ble Members of Parliament, in addition to other dignitaries for confirmation of wait-listed tickets of passengers;**
- (b) if so, the details of such recommendation letters received during the last forty years and the number of such wait-listed tickets confirmed, class-wise especially the recommendation letters received from the States including Telangana, Bihar, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh;**
- (c) whether the Railways have received any complaint or noticed about the misuse of said letters from VIPs by some travel agents and railway employees during the last thirty five years and if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and**
- (d) whether the Railways proposes to hold a meeting with MPs to find a solution to these issues and to take corrective steps in this regard and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) In order to meet the urgent travel requirements of High Official Requisition (HOR) holders (which includes Central Government Ministers, Hon'ble Judges of Supreme Court/High Courts), Members of Parliament and

other emergent demands, a limited number of berths/seats have been earmarked as Emergency Quota in different trains and in different classes. The quota is released by the Railways in accordance with the priority as per warrant of precedence and well-established practice being followed since long. Since a large number of requests are received from various quarters and are dealt with on day-to-day basis, details of requests received for release of accommodation out of Emergency Quota are only preserved as per extant guidelines.

Comprehensive instructions regarding procedure to be followed while considering requests for release of emergency quota are already available and the same are expected to be followed while considering such requests. However, in case any complaint regarding misuse of reservation system by unscrupulous elements including travel agents is received, the same is investigated and action as deemed fit as per extant guidelines is taken. The centralized data of such complaints is, however, not maintained.
