GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4597 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025

BASIC AMENITIES/SERVICES IN UNRESERVED COACHES

†4597 SHRI RODMAL NAGAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is making any efforts to provide basic amenities and better services to passengers travelling in unreserved coaches of trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the passenger capacity of unreserved general coaches in the country;
- (d) whether the Government has reserved any special general unreserved coaches for women;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to introduce advanced type of unreserved coaches for better passenger experience; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (g) Indian Railways have significantly increased the facilities for passengers demanding general/sleeper class travel.

During the last financial year 2024-25 alone, 1250 general coaches have been utilised in various long-distance trains.

To facilitate people travelling by General/Sleeper class, Indian Railways have also taken up manufacturing of 17,000 non AC coaches (General/Sleeper).

The percentage of non-AC coaches has significantly increased to about 70% as detailed below:

Table 1: Distribution of coaches:

Non-AC coaches (general and sleeper)	~57,200	~70%
AC coaches	~25,000	~30%
Total coaches	~82,200	100%

Due to higher availability of general coaches, the number of passengers traveling in general/unreserved coaches has shown an increasing trend as shown below:

Table 2: Passengers in general/unreserved coaches:

Year	No. of Passengers
2020-21	99 Cr (Covid year)
2021-22	275 Cr (Covid year)
2022-23	553 Cr
2023-24	609 Cr
2024-25	651 Cr

The number of seats available for non-AC passengers has also increased over the years. The current composition is as follows:

Table 3: Distribution of seats:

Non-AC seats	~ 54 lakhs	~ 78%
AC seats	~ 15 lakhs	~ 22%
Total	~ 69 lakhs	100%

To provide greater accommodation for the passengers using General and non-AC Sleeper Coaches, the extant policy regarding composition of Mail/Express trains provides for 12 (Twelve) General class & Sleeper class non- AC coaches and 08 (eight) AC-Coaches, in a train of 22 coaches, thereby providing greater accommodation for the passengers using General and non-AC Sleeper Coaches.

Further, to cater to the needs of passengers desirous of availing unreserved accommodation, Indian Railways (IR) operate unreserved non-AC passenger trains/ MEMU / EMU etc. for affordable travel, which are in addition to the unreserved accommodation (coaches) available in Mail/Express services.

Indian Railways have already provided General class accommodation for women in LSLRD/SLRD coach which is attached in almost all Mail/Express trains.

Amrit Bharat Trains

Indian Railways (IR) has introduced fully non-AC Amrit Bharat trains, presently comprising 11 General Class coaches, 8 Sleeper Class coaches, 1 Pantry car and 02 Second class Luggage cum Divyangjan Coach. These trains have been designed and manufactured to cater to the needs of general public by providing World-class modern and comfortable rail travel experience to passengers of Non-AC segment. IR has provisioned for production of 100 Amrit Bharat Trains.

High Speed and enhanced Safety standards are the hallmarks of these trains with following enhanced features and amenities:

- Better aesthetics of seat and berths with enhanced look & feel on the lines of Vande Bharat Sleeper.
- Jerk Free Semi-Automatic Couplers.
- Improved Crashworthiness in coaches by provision of crash tube.
- Provision of CCTV system in all coaches and Luggage room.
- Improved designs of toilets.
- Improved design of Ladder for ease of climbing on to the berth.
- Improved LED Light fitting & Charging Sockets.
- Provision of EP assisted braking system.
- Aerosol based fire suppression system in toilets and electrical cubicles.
- USB Type-A and Type-C mobile charging sockets.
- Emergency Talk Back system for two-way communication between Passenger and Guard/Train Manager.

- Non-AC pantry with enhanced heating capacity.
- Fully sealed gangways with quick release mechanism for easy attachment and detachment.

Presently, 16 services of Amrit Bharat Trains are running in Indian Railway's network.

Namo Bharat Rapid Rail

Namo Bharat Rapid Rail has been introduced to enhance the travelling experience of suburban and regional commuters for inter-city short distance movement by harnessing the features of Vande Bharat Trains. Namo Bharat Rapid Rail is fully unreserved train.

The prominent features of Namo Bharat Rapid Rail are as follows:

- Centrally controlled Double Leaf Automatic Sliding Doors.
- CCTVs for safety and passenger surveillance.
- Modular interior with Cushioned Seats and Sealed Flexible
 Gangway.
- Emergency Talk System.
- Continuous LED lighting with Energy Efficient Lighting system.
- FRP Modular Toilets with vacuum evacuation.
- Fully Air-Conditioned trains with Driver cab AC.

Presently, 4 services of Namo Bharat Rapid Rails are running in Indian Railway's network.