

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.487
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025**

INCREASE IN PASSENGER TRAIN FARES

**487. SHRI SUBBARAYAN K:
SHRI C N ANNADURAI:
SMT. RACHNA BANERJEE:
SHRI SELVAM G:
COM. SELVARAJ V:
SHRI PUSHPENDRA SAROJ:
SHRI NAVASKANI K:
SHRI MURASOLI S:
SHRI RAKESH RATHOR:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has increased passenger train fares from 1 July, 2025, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, specially for AC coaches;**
- (b) the details of the categories of trains such as Mail/Express, Passenger, Superfast, Vande Bharat etc. and classes of travel- Sleeper, AC, General that will be affected by the proposed fare hike;**
- (c) whether the Government has assessed/studied the likely financial burden on daily commuters lower/middle income group and economically weaker sections due to the proposed fare increase, especially on long distance and non-suburban routes, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether any measures have been proposed to protect affordability for low-income passengers, EWS, senior citizens and essential travel categories, including possible exemptions or subsidies, if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) the details of distance fixed for increasing fares and the expected increase in revenue based on the recent fare hike;**
- (f) the manner in which it plans to balance affordability with revenue generation;**

- (g) whether any public consultation or stakeholders feedback was taken before deciding on fare hikes for different classes, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (h) whether the Government plans to improve infrastructure, safety and frequency of suburban rail services and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (h): Indian Railways provide affordable transportation service to more than 720 crore passengers. The fares of Indian Railways are among the lowest in the world, even when compared with the neighboring countries.

Subsidy: The total amount of subsidy given in FY 2023-24 on passenger travel is provisionally estimated at Rs. 60,466 Crore. This amounts to a 45 % subsidy on the cost of passenger travel.

Fares have been rationalized w.e.f. 01 July 2025 after a gap of more than 5 years. The increase in fares is very low, ranging from half paise per km to two paise per km for premium classes.

The details of the fare revision are as follows:

- i) No increase in Second Class Ordinary up to 500 km and thereafter Half paise increase in fare per passenger per kilometer.**
- ii) Half paise increase in fare per passenger per kilometer in Sleeper Class Ordinary and First-Class Ordinary.**
- iii) 01 Paise increase per passenger per kilometer in Non-AC Classes in Mail Express.**

iv) 02 paisa increase per passenger per kilometer in reserved AC-Classes.

To maintain affordability for low and middle income families, the fares for MST and Suburban travel have not been revised.

Further, the fare revision is likely to have insignificant impact on the total amount of subsidy because the revision ranges from half paise to 2 paise only per kilometer of travel.

It is estimated that less than half the trips will have a marginal increase in fare. For example, for a low –income traveler in general coach, there is no fare increase for 500 km travel.

To improve the Suburban infrastructure and safety, several works of Network expansion, Track upgradation etc. have been taken up. Further, increase in frequency of train services including suburban train services is an on-going process over Indian railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources etc.
