

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding withdrawal of train services and fare concession.-Laid

SHRI D.M. KATHIR ANAND (VELLORE): Railways is the life line of the people of the country especially the poor and downtrodden who depend on railways for their travel. The Railways had withdrawn train Services and Cancelled the fare Concession for Senior Citizens and differently abled persons since the Covid 19 lockdown from March 2020. Indian Railways provide concession in ticket fare for 53 Category of people like Senior citizens, Differently-abled persons, Medal winning Sports personalites, Cancer Patients, Journalists. Women above 58 years and Men above 60 years were given 50% and 40% Concession respectively. Freedom fighters are honoured and were given 100% concession. Sir, full restoration of train Services are yet to happen even after one year. since the government imposed lockdown. To add more woes, the Government is running 70% of trains as Special trains with higher fares. Poor Passengers have to spend more money for their travel by train even for short distances. unfortunately the government did not bother to restore the fare concession. This has burdened the elderly persons and physically challenged persons very badly. To make things worse, the Railways is keen on introducing Private players in train Services with many fold increase in ticket fares. This is rubbing salt on the wound of common people.