

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2818
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2002
RAILWAY LOSS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways lose money on passenger services across the country;
- (b) whether the Railways lost about Rs.4,514 crores in 1999-2000 on passenger services;
- (c) whether the survey conducted in this context has revealed that such losses have been caused due to concessional fares extended to various sections of people including railway employees;
- (d) if so, the details of the sample survey; and
- (e) the efforts made to remove the first priority in reservations to such concessional ticket beneficiaries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) to (e) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2818 BY PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU TO BE ANSWERED ON 01-08-2002 REGARDING RAILWAY LOSS

(a)&(b) Losses on passenger and other coaching services during 1999-2000 were Rs.4,582.71 crore.

(c) No such survey has been conducted by Railways.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The reservation system does not accord priority to any passenger. However:

(i) A reservation quota of two berths in sleeper class of all trains running on non-suburban sections has been earmarked for handicapped persons performing their journey on handicapped concessional ticket. The person accompanying the handicapped person as escort is also provided accommodation out of this quota.

(ii) In respect of senior citizens, while there is no earmarked quota, there is a provision in the reservation system to reserve lower berths for Senior Citizens and Handicapped persons automatically even if they do not give their choice, provided lower berths are available at the time of booking. In respect of general passengers, also, lower berths are allotted if they give their choice in the requisition form at the time of booking, provided the same are available.

The above facilities have been provided on humanitarian considerations.