

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2338
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2010
OVERCHARGING PASSENGER FARE
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are charging higher fare from passengers heading towards Haridwar for 'Mahakumbh';
- (b) if so, whether extra facilities are being provided to the passengers on account of charging higher fare;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for charging higher fare?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a): Yes, Madam. A nominal Mela surcharge of Rs.3/- for Second Class, Rs.5/- for Sleeper Class, Rs.7/- for AC Chair Car/AC 3-Tier, Rs.10/- for First Class/AC 2-Tier and Rs.15/- for AC First Class, is levied only on tickets whose basic fare is more than Rs 15/-.

(b): Yes, Madam.

(c): Rs. 38.61 Crores have been spent in providing the following extra facilities:-

construction of new Booking Office at Haridwar, Motichur and Rishikesh

construction of roads and pathways in Jhanda ground

construction of enquiry counters and security towers

closed circuit television cameras at Haridwar and Rishikesh

Yard re-modelling at Haridwar, Jwalapur, Pathri and Aithal

increase in length of existing Platforms and provision of new Platforms

extension of Foot Over Bridge at Haridwar

construction of Railway Over Bridge at Laksar

proper illumination and adequate water facilities in the station area

In addition, for the Haridwar Mahakumbh, Railways have arranged for 13 additional PRS counters and 58 additional UTS counters at Haridwar, Rishikesh, Jwalapur and Motichur. 33 special trains are also running to and from Haridwar, and about 500 berths/seats are being provided by augmenting trains to facilitate Kumbh Mela Passengers.

(d): Does not arise.