

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:747

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2010

RESERVATION QUOTA

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Azad Shri Kirti (Jha);Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath;Singh Shri Bhola;Tirkey Shri Manohar;Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of recent media reports wherein it was reported that railway reservation in general and High Official Requisition(HOR) quota in particular is badly under the control of touts and middlemen due to their connivance with departmental staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of touts, without ticket traveller, transferred ticket travellers, blackmarketers of reservation/tatkal tickets have been apprehended in different zones and divisions during the last three months;

(d) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise and division-wise and the action taken/being taken by the Railway to prevent such activities;

(e) whether the scope of punishment fixed for the ticket mafia has been widened; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A few instances of cornering of reserved accommodation by the touts were telecast during the recent past. However, no specific information was quoted therein.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. A statement showing the zone-wise figures indicating the number of touts apprehended/prosecuted, number of persons travelling without tickets/with improper tickets and persons travelling on transferred tickets detected during the last three months i.e. April 2010 to June 2010 is given at Appendix. However, Division-wise figures are not maintained. Regular and surprise checks are conducted by the Commercial and the Vigilance Departments at the reservation offices at stations and in trains. Persons detected travelling on tickets purchased in others' name are charged as per rules. Railway staff if found conniving with touts are taken up under the Discipline and Appeal Rules. Campaigns are also launched to educate the public to desist from travelling without tickets and purchasing tickets from unauthorized persons. Ticketing and travelling mal-practices occur due to a gap between the demand and supply. To bridge this gap, special trains are run, new trains introduced, the run of the existing trains extended and their load augmented.

(e) & (f): As per Section 144 of Railways Act 1989, the persons indulged in touting activities are punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or both and shall also lead to forfeiture of the tickets which he so procures, supplies, purchases, sells or attempts to purchase or sell.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.747 BY DR. BHOLA SINGH SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL, SHRIMATI JAYA PRADA, PROF.(DR.) RANJAN PRASAD YADAV, SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA, SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY, SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY AND SHRI KIRTI AZAD TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 29-07-2010 REGARDING RESERVATION QUOTA.

(c) & (d): The zone-wise number of touts apprehended and prosecuted, number of persons travelling without ticket/with improper tickets and number of persons travelling on transferred ticket during the last three months i.e. April, 2010 to June, 2010 (as available) are as under:

Railway	Number of touts apprehended and prosecuted	Number of persons travelling without tickets/with improper ticket (in lakhs)	Number of persons travelling on transferred ticket.
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Eastern	30	1.24	-
East Central	13	1.47	-
East Coast	7	0.48	2
Northern	97	4.97	243
North Central	3	2.45	16
North Eastern	23	1.50	-
Northeast Frontier	4	0.59	27
North Western	14	1.12	184
Southern	559	1.38	8646
South Central	26	2.60	361
South Eastern	34	0.72	76
South East Central	5	0.56	-
South Western	-	0.61	2297
Western	117	3.06	1431
West Central	11	1.10	448
Total	947	27.58	15216