

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1430
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010
FIVE DIGIT NUMBERS FOR TRAINS
Shantha J.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Railways are going to implement 5-digit numbers in place of the existing 4-digit numbers for all the trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind such move; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The details of the scheme are that the existing express train numbers shall largely continue unchanged but shall now be prefixed with first digit of "1". The passenger trains shall be first numbered as per the present four digit train numbering scheme. To this four digit number, a fifth digit shall be prefixed as digit "0" for special trains, digit "5", "6" and "7" for Conventional passenger trains, MEMU and DEMU trains respectively. Suburban services in Kolkata shall begin with digit "3", in Mumbai with digit "9" and in other parts with digit "4". It is now proposed to capture all passenger trains running over Indian Railways for various software applications by giving them a unique number. Thus, there is a need to shift to 5-digit train numbering scheme from a 4-digit train numbering scheme as Indian Railways presently runs over 11,000 passenger carrying trains on an average per day while 4-digit scheme can have train numbers only upto 9,999.

(c): 5-digit numbering scheme is to be made effective from 20th December, 2010.