

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1129
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012
SHORTAGE OF RESERVED SEATS
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an acute shortage of reserved seats in express trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor including the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Railways to address the issue;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) to (d): The average occupancy of trains on Indian Railways during the current financial year (up to October, 2012) is 92%.

However, the demand for reserved accommodation on Indian Railways is not uniform and varies from time to time. During peak rush period/days such as Durga Puja, Deepawali, Winter & Summer vacations etc. especially on well patronized sectors and in popular trains, the demand for reserved accommodation for various destinations exceeds the availability. Therefore, during peak periods, the available accommodation gets booked within short duration of opening of reservation. During non-peak periods and in relatively less popular trains, the accommodation is available for a relatively longer period.

With a view to ensuring increased availability of accommodation to passengers during peak rush periods, composition of existing trains is augmented and a large number of special trains are run to cater to additional demand.