

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:792

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2013

RESERVATION THROUGH MOBILE SMS

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have launched ticket booking through non-internet based Mobile Phones through SMS mode;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features thereof;
- (c) if so, whether the Railways are considering to provide options of other languages as well; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken/being taken to popularise the non- conventional mode of rail reservation?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. A pilot project of ticketing through non-internet based mobile phones has been launched by IRCTC on 1st July, 2013. The salient features of the scheme are as follows:

There is no need of internet at any stage, viz. booking, payment, cancellation etc.

The user gets ticket details Short Messaging Service (SMS) instantly.

SMS along with Photo Identity Card in original can be used to travel, no printout of the ticket is required.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): The steps taken to popularize the booking of tickets through non-internet based mobile phones through SMS mode are as follows:

Publication in leading newspapers.

Distribution of brochures about SMS booking.

Sending details of the scheme through e-mail to all registered users of IRCTC.

Display of message on the website of IRCTC.