

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4165

ANSWERED ON:20.04.2015

SUMMER SPECIAL TRAINS

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways propose to introduce holiday special trains in all the States in the country during summer and festive seasons specifically for Gujarat and West Central Railway Zone, Jabalpur in view of the heavy rush of passengers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Railways are also considering to start Gatimann Express train from Delhi to Agra in the upcoming season and if so, the details thereof along with its fare structure for all classes of passengers;
- (c) the amount of additional revenue likely to be earned by the Railways from these trains;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the provision of pantry car is not available in most of the trains and passengers are facing problems and if so, the details thereof ; and
- (e) the steps taken/to be taken by the Railways to provide pantry cars in all the trains in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) : Indian Railways do not introduce trains on State-wise/region wise basis as Railway network and train operation run across State boundaries. Indian Railways run special trains including for West Central Railway zone during peak seasons, special events, holidays for clearance of extra rush of passenger traffic keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources. Running of special trains on various sectors is a continuous process.

(b): At present, there is no plan to introduce Gatimaan Express train from Delhi to Agra in the upcoming season, awaiting mandatory clearance from Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS).

(c): Does not arise.

(d) & (e): As per norms laid down in the Catering Policy 2010, provision for attachment of pantry cars is based on order of priority with first priority to Duronto and Rajdhani Express trains; followed by long distance premier, Super Fast trains; Mail and Express trains with more than 24 hours journey time either way; and lastly for the remaining trains, with preference to those trains in which vestibules are provided. Accordingly, attachment of the pantry car is done as per Catering Policy depending upon the above priority and availability of pantry cars. Trains in which pantry car is not available, catering services are provided through Trains Side Vending (TSV) in trains and/or by supply of meals through static catering units at en-route stations. Further, passengers can also book their choice of food through E-Catering scheme in 120 pairs of trains running without pantry car.