

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1702

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2016

Luxury Trains

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways in association with Ministry of Tourism and State Governments are running luxury trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether over the years, especially during 2015-16, the occupancy has dropped in almost all such trains and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether his Ministry and the Ministry of Tourism are now working together over a series of initiatives to overcome this situation and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the occupancy rate of luxury trains?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b): Presently, Indian Railways operate 5 luxury tourist trains (Palace on Wheels, Royal Rajasthan on Wheels, Deccan Odyssey, Golden Chariot and Maharajas' Express) in association with State Tourism Corporations / Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation.

(c): There has been decline in the occupancy of luxury tourist train Palace on Wheels over the years while the occupancy of rest of the trains has remained nearly at the same occupancy level. This could be attributed to the increase in number of new trains during the last decade and the recent slowdown in the luxury travel segment.

(d) & (e): Promotion of luxury tourist trains is the responsibility of respective train operating tourism corporations and they have stepped up the promotional activities and incentives to tour operators as well as tourists.
