GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1736 ANSWERED ON:27.07.2016 Increase in Coaches for Women Baker Shri George;Nagar Shri Rodmal

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of coaches of the trains running in the country;
- (b) whether the Government is planning/considering to increase the number of coaches of the trains especially for women due to the increasing number of passengers in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the details of recommendations received by the Government from the various quarters during the last three years and the current year and the action taken thereon; and
- (e) the budget sanctioned/likely to be sanctioned for this purpose and the time by which it is likely to be increased?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

- (a) As on 31.03.2016, the holding of coaches (excluding EMU, MEMU and DEMU) over Indian Railways is about 53000. This is being utilized over Indian Railways.
- (b) to (d) To facilitate female passengers, following facilities have been provided:
- (i) In Sleeper Class coach, reservation quota of 6 berths has been earmarked in Mail/Express trains on non-suburban section for ladies irrespective of age travelling alone or in a group of female passengers.
- (ii) As per announcement of Rail Budget, 2016-17, Lower Berth quota in 2A, 3A and Sleeper classes has been increased by 50%. Now, in all trains having reserved sleeping accommodation, a combined quota of six lower berths per coach in Sleeper class and three lower berths per coach in AC 3 tier and AC 2 tier classes has been earmarked for Senior Citizens, Female passenger 45 years of age and above, and Pregnant women. In case of Rajdhani, Duronto and fully Air Conditioned/Express trains, the number of lower berths to be earmarked under this quota in 3 AC class are four per coach.
- (iii) In most of the long distance Mail/Express trains, unreserved accommodation is earmarked for ladies.
- (iv) Separate compartments/coaches have been earmarked in suburban trains for exclusive use of ladies passengers.
- (v) During the Financial Year 2015-16, 28 Lakh berths under Ladies quota and 1.42 Crore berths under Senior Citizen quota were earmarked whose utilization was 85% and 86% respectively.
- (vi) Whenever recommendations are received from various quarters for increasing the number of coaches of the trains, they are examined, and to meet the increased demand various measures are taken which include introduction of new trains, enhancement of the composition of more popular trains, attachment of extra coaches in the existing trains, running of special trains for clearance of extra passengers traffic during peak seasons, festivals, special events etc. keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources etc. Specific details of such recommendations, however is not maintained.
- (e) No such separate sanction is made for this purpose.