

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4404
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2022**

NON-RESUMPTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS CONCESSION

4404. SHRI S. VENKATESAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of senior citizens who availed concession and the amount of revenue foregone as a result of concession during 2019-20;**
- (b) the number of senior citizens who actually travelled and the amount of concession saved during 20 March, 2020 to 31 March, 2021 and 1 April 2021 till date in the current Financial Year (FY) after the withdrawal of the said concession;**
- (c) whether the amount of concession saved is meagre as compared to the earnings of Railways and most of the senior citizens have been fully vaccinated; and**
- (d) if so, the reasons for non-resumption of senior citizen concession?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4404 BY SHRI S. VENKATESAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 30.03.2022 REGARDING NON-RESUMPTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS CONCESSION

(a): Approximately 12 Crore Senior Citizen passengers (both reserved and unreserved) availed concession in passenger fare during 2019-20 and revenue foregone due to concession on this account for the same period was approximately ₹1667 Crore.

(b) & (c): Since age of unreserved senior Citizen Passengers in Unreserved ticketing system (UTS) is not captured and concession to this category were withdrawn from 20.03.2020, data for unreserved Senior citizen passenger is not available for the mentioned period. However, the number of reserved Senior Citizen passengers travelled during mentioned period are as under:-

Period	No. of Senior Citizens who travelled (Figures in Crore)
20 March 2020 to 31 March 2021	1.87
1 April 2021 to 28 February 2022	4.74

Since age of unreserved senior citizen passengers is not captured and some of the Senior citizen passengers do not avail concessions therefore actual saving cannot be determined.

(d): In view of Pandemic & Covid Protocol, with effect from 20.03.2020 Railways has continued concession to only four categories of Divyangjan, eleven categories of Patients, and Students. Due to challenges posed by Covid-19, total passenger revenue generated during 2020-21 is less in comparison to the year 2019-2020 Pre-Covid period. Cost of granting concessions weigh heavily on Railways, hence extending the scope of concessions to all categories of passengers including senior citizens is not desirable at present.

In spite of above challenges, Railways has continued to provide concessions to passengers namely four categories of Divyangjans, eleven categories of Patients, and Students.