

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3583
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2021**

INCREASE IN FARE

3583. SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether passenger train fare has been increased to reduce the unnecessary travel by passengers in view of the increasing COVID-19 cases;**
- (b) if so, whether the Government has set up a timeline of three to four months by when the fare is likely to be restored to the original one;**
- (c) if so, the time frame decided in this regard; and**
- (d) if not, the reasons therefore?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(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. 3583 BY SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 17.03.2021 REGARDING INCREASE IN FARE

(a): During Pre-Covid time, for long distance passengers two types of train services were running over Indian Railways (i) Regular time tabled trains and (ii) Special trains during festivals/peak demand period/rush period etc. Further, Special trains were of three types (1) Second class unreserved specials on normal fare (2) Special trains on special charges on normal fare plus special charges (10% in second class reserved and 30% in other classes subject to prescribed maximum and minimum limit), and (3) Suvidha Specials on minimum tatkal fare and maximum three times of tatkal fare. For both special trains on special charges and Suvidha trains, fare for second class unreserved was normal second class Mail/Express superfast fare.

In view of health advisory due to Covid 19, regular train services are running as Covid specials on the fare as applicable for regular time Tabled trains. During Covid times as passenger demands are not uniform over different sectors, some special trains on special charges have been introduced to meet the additional demands over different sectors as per already published fare for special trains on special charges vide (2) above. Further, unreserved second class has been declared as reserved second class in view of pandemic situation.

In view of Covid-19 protocol, fare in short distance trains also varies depending upon categorisation of trains as either Covid special second class unreserved express or train on demand/festival special or passenger special.

(b) to (d): Train services are being resumed in a phased manner keeping in view the health protocols and feedback from States.
