

Efficient System of Reservation

330. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that considerable inconvenience and harassment is caused to the genuine passengers wanting to travel by fast running long distance trains, for want of efficient system of reservation of accommodation; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN):

(a) and (b). A few complaints of inconvenience and harassment to bonafide passengers wanting to travel by fast and long distance express trains have been received.

The following steps have been taken to provide a better reservation service to passengers:

(i) Efforts are made to reduce the gap between the demand and supply by introducing new trains, augmenting the loads of existing trains, extending their runs, increasing the frequency of weekly/bi-weekly trains and running holiday specials on important routes to clear the traffic.

(ii) The time-limit for advance reservation has been made six months at all stations and by all trains, to avoid blocking of accommodation by anti-social elements and providing a wider choice to bonafide passengers for planning rail journeys well in advance.

(iii) Reservation procedures and arrangements at important stations have been streamlined by opening additional booking windows, reservation counters, etc., to afford a better service to passengers.

(iv) Checks have been intensified with the help of anti-fraud squads,

Vigilance Organisation, G.R.P. and R.P.F. to detect anti-social elements and Railway staff indulging in mal-practices regarding reservation. Strict action is taken against the defaulters to improve matters.

Supply of Wagons for Transportation of Coal

331. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons supplied by the Railways for transportation of coal during the last three months; and

(b) whether Government propose to increase the supply of wagons for carrying coal with a view to augmenting the production in coal-based industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) The average daily number of wagons loaded each month during July to September 1977 is given below:..

Month	Loading / Daily BG-4	(Average figures in Wheeler)
July		10,000
August		9,472
September		9,964

(b) As the demands of the coal producers have been fully met, the question does not arise.

Ticketless Travelling on Northern Railway

332. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the raids conducted during the last three months to detect ticketless travelling on Northern Railway; and