

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1232
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2002
SHATABDI EXPRESS BETWEEN BANGALORE AND MYSORE
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Shatabdi Express between Bangalore and Mysore runs nearly empty;
- (b) Whether any efforts have been made to attract more passengers for such trains;
- (c) Whether Government are aware that high fares are scaring away passengers from using this Shatabdi Express; and
- (d) The steps taken or proposed to be taken to charge reasonable fares or ensure hat occupancy rate goes up in this train?

Answer

(MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS) (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) The average occupancy of the Shatabdi trains between Chennai and Mysore during the year 2001 was 68% and 73% respectively in up and down directions. However, the occupancy of Shatabdi express trains in Bangalore-Mysore and Mysore-Bangalore leg was 23% and 22% respectively in AC Chair car during the year 2001.

(b) & (c) Shatabdi Express trains are premium trains with higher fares with extra services offered for a particular segment of passengers. This trains is popular between Chennai and Bangalore because of the higher percentage of IT business travellers whereas the occupancy of this train between Bangalore and Mysore leg is low as the traffic is mainly tourists. Bangalore is well connected by roads to Mysore and the bus fares are comparatively cheaper. Continuous efforts to market this train at both Chennai-Bangalore and Mysore have been under taken.