

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2344
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005
RAIL BOOKING SERVICES
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has granted permission to accredited travel agents to provide rail booking services ; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for which the Government has given this permission to only a few selected agents ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

(a) & (b) Rail Tourist Agents (RTAs) authorized to stack and purchase tickets for Indian Nationals and Foreign tourists and Rail Travellers' Service Agents (RTSAs) authorized to purchase tickets from the Railway reservation offices on behalf of passengers are functioning in various cities. These agents have been appointed in terms of Rail Tourist Agents Rules, 1980 and Rail Travellers' Service Agents Rules, 1985. The number of these agents to be appointed at any location is estimated keeping in view the reservation related demand in a particular area.