

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2326

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005

INTERNET BOOKING OF RAILWAY RESERVATION

Bhakta Shri Manoranjan;Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- a.) whether the Government has started E-ticketing i.e. reservation booking through internet;
- (b) if so, whether the said facility is applicable for all trains;
- (c) if not, the measures taken by the Government for extension of said facility in all trains;
- (d) whether the foreign tourists and NRIs are also eligible to avail the said facility;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the reservation booking through internet has gained the estimated momentum;
- g) if so, the details thereof; and
- h) the steps taken by the Government for easy availability of reservation through internet with lesser charges and for popularisation of the scheme?

Answer

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

- a) Yes, Sir.
- b) Reservation of tickets through Internet is available for all such trains which are covered through computerized reservation.
- c) Does not arise.
- d) & (e) Yes, Sir. At present, any customer can book tickets through the Internet, provided he can make payment online.
- f) Yes, Sir. g) The sale of tickets through Internet has shown increasing trend since its beginning in August 2002, as shown under-

Financial year	No. of Tickets sold
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Aug 02 to Mar 03	1,99,133
2003-04	7,28,404
2004-05	12,81,033
Apr 05 to Nov 05	12,89,328

h) To popularize the booking through Internet, the delivery of tickets has been extended to 181 cities. Payment options have been liberalized by introducing the facility of direct Debit through internet and Prepaid Cash Cards in addition to Credit Cards. The booking hours have been extended from 4.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m. on all week days and from 4.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. on Sundays. In addition, facility of booking through mobile phones has been introduced alongwith booking of tickets through e-ticketing where conventional ticket is dispensed with.