

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:377

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006

SELLING OF RAILWAY TICKETS

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have made any arrangement with banks, P&T and other departments for issue of railway tickets;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the objectives behind selling the tickets at such places;
- (d) whether the railway stations are not adequate to sell the tickets to the passengers;
- (e) if so, the implications of selling tickets outside the railway stations; and
- (f) the remedial measures taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with State Bank of India for installation of Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) for provision of facility of issue of e-tickets alongwith ATMs at A, B & C categories of stations. Similar MoU has also been finalised with six other nationalised banks.

Arrangements also exist with Defence Authorities and some State Governments for issuing reserved tickets in far off areas having no rail head.

(c) to (f) These arrangements have been made to ensure easy availability of reserved tickets to the passengers even in far off regions. Although the arrangements made for issuing of reserved tickets are generally adequate, during peak rush periods long queues can be seen for issuing of reserved tickets despite opening of additional counters. In this direction, a number of steps are being taken by Railways to increase the reach of reserved tickets which include opening of new computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) centers, introduction of scheme of issuing of tickets through Internet etc. Adequate safeguards are being taken to avoid its misuse.