

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3088
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
I/E-TICKETS THROUGH RTSAs
Ravindran Shri Pannian;Surendran Shri Chengara

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have decided to provide i-tickets and e-tickets through Rail Travel Service Agents (RTSAs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways are aware that this step will lead to gradually handing over the ticketing services in the hands of private agencies thereby encouraging black marketing of tickets; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to prevent black marketing of on-line tickets ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBAHI J. RATHWA)

- (a) to (b): Yes Sir. Rail Travellers Service Agents (RTSAs) have been authorised to book i-tickets and e-tickets through Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).
- (c): This step is being taken to reduce the long queues at the reservation counters. As anyone including general public and travel agents can simultaneously access the reserved accommodation available at the counter, the probability of black marketing of ticket after provision of this facility are very bleak.
- (d) Necessary safeguards have been taken to avoid misuse of this facility.