

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:61
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2007
TOUTS AND UNAUTHORISED TRAVEL AGENTS
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have taken stern action against passengers procuring their tickets from touts and other unauthorised travel agencies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the menace of brokers operating at several railway stations is not being properly controlled by the Railway authorities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Railways to break the nexus of touts and other unauthorised travel agencies with the railway booking staff?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Sir. Passengers procuring tickets from touts and other unauthorized travel agents are taken up under Section 142 of the Railways Act, 1989 which lays down imprisonment for a term upto three months and fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.
- (b): During the year 2007-08 (upto September 2007), 14440 cases of transferred tickets were detected and an amount of Rs.87.00 lakhs realized from them.
- (c) & (d): Regular and preventive checks are conducted in and around railway reservation offices to curb the illegal activities of touts and other anti-social elements. Surveillance and monitoring at reservation offices is also stepped up during peak rush periods. In addition, travelling public are educated through various media to desist from procuring tickets from unauthorized people. Touts so apprehended are taken up as per provisions of law. Railway staff, if found conniving with touts, are taken up under Disciplinary & Appeal Rules.