

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:283

ANSWERED ON:23.07.2009

PASSENGER ATTRACTION MEASURES IN RAILWAYS

Jagannath Dr. M.;Patel Shri Bal Kumar

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have chalked out any strategy to attract passengers and deal with the challenges posed by the budget airlines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether rail hostesses have been provided in coaches in trains in certain sectors on the lines of flights; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.283 BY SHRI BAL KUMAR PATEL AND DR. M. JAGANNATH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23-07-2009 REGARDING PASSENGER ATTRACTION MEASURES IN RAILWAYS

(a) & (b): Railways and Airlines are not strictly comparable as they serve largely different passenger market segments. Indian Railways are lifeline of the nation; carrying 18 million passengers per day including 10 million suburban passengers. Every day Railways run 10385 trains, including 8248 suburban/passenger trains. Railways are more energy efficient and environment-friendly. Some of the steps taken by Railways to meet the ever-growing passenger transportation demands are – introduction of additional trains including non-stop Duronto trains; enhancing carrying capacity of more popular trains; enlarging facilities for sale of both reserved and unreserved tickets, including proliferation of e-ticketing system.

(c) & (d) : At present there is no concept of rail hostesses on Indian Railways.