GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3164 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025

ADDITIONAL TRAINS FOR MAHAKUMBH

†3164. DR. BHOLA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the additional trains that have been run for the convenience of pilgrims on the occasion of Mahakumbh 2025 in comparison to Mahakumbh 2019 along with the details of increase in the number of trains;
- (b) the details of the main routes on which additional trains have been operated;
- (c) whether some special trains have been operated for the convenience of long distance travellers, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the total number of tickets booked during Mahakumbh 2025 and the number of people who could not get confirmed tickets along with the number of tickets that remained on the waiting list;
- (e) whether the Government has made any special plans to provide smooth travelling facilities to the pilgrims and to control the crowd at the stations; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) To cater to the needs of passengers and facilitate their journey during Maha Kumbh-2025, Indian Railways (IR) had operated more than 17,300 nos. trains which included 2048 short distance inward trains, 3364 short distance outward trains and 996 long

distance trains. In the year 2019 Kumbh, 8394 trains were operated which included 694 special train services. Besides, for the first time, 442 nos. Ring Railway services connecting key religious sites like Ayodhya, Varanasi and Chitrakoot were operated on a daily basis during Maha Kumbh-2025. All these measures served approximately 4.24 crore passengers.

- (e) and (f) The following steps were taken by the RPF in coordination with other stakeholders to control the crowd at stations:-
- 1. Coordination with GRP/State Police and concerned railway departments were made for ensuring crowd management.
- 2. GRP & RPF staff were deployed at sensitive locations to regulate crowd smoothly during the heavy rush period and render real time assistance to passengers.
- 3. Additional enclosures were made to hold rush of passengers and their regulated entry to platforms & while boarding trains.
- 4. Queue System was maintained for hassle free boarding of passengers in general coaches of important trains at originating stations.
- 5. CCTV cameras were monitored 24x7 in the CCTV control room.
- 6. Intelligence units (CIB/SIB) and plain cloth staff were deployed for collection of information about rush and accordingly arrangements were made associating GRP/Police.
- 7. A response plan was developed to handle potential incidents swiftly and effectively in coordination with state police, intelligence units and other railway departments at stations in Prayagraj.
