

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 742**  
**ANSWERED ON 25.07.2025**

**INCREASE IN RAIL FARE**

742 SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the increase in the railway fare for passengers across each category i.e Platform ticket, General, Sleeper, AC in last five years, year-wise, and;
- (b) the year-wise details of increase in freight fare in last five years?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a): Indian Railways provide affordable transportation service to more than 720 crore passengers. The fare of Indian Railways are lowest in the world, even when compared with the neighbouring countries.

**Subsidy:** The total amount of subsidy given in FY 2023-24 on passenger travel is provisionally estimated at Rs. 60,466 crore. This amounts to a 45 % subsidy on the cost of passenger travel.

Fares have been rationalized w.e.f. 01.07.2025 after a gap of more than 5 years. The increase in fares is very low, ranging from half paise per km to two paise per km for premium classes.

The details of the fare revision are as follows:

- i) No increase in Second Class Ordinary up to 500 km and thereafter Half paise increase in fare per passenger per kilometer.
- ii) Half paise increase in fare per passenger per kilometer in Sleeper Class Ordinary and First-Class Ordinary.
- iii) 01 Paise increase per passenger per kilometer in Non-AC Classes in Mail Express.

iv) 02 paisa increase per passenger per kilometer in reserved AC-Classes.

To maintain affordability for low and middle income families, the fares for MST and Suburban travel have not been revised.

Further, the fare revision is likely to have insignificant impact on the total amount of subsidy because the revision ranges from half paise to 2 paise only per kilometer of travel.

It is estimated that less than half the trips will have a marginal increase in fare. For example, for a low-income traveller in general coach, there is no fare increase for 500 km travel.

(b): The last fare revision in the freight segment was done in the year 2018-19, where freight rates were revised by 8.75% for all commodities except foodgrain, fertilizers, POL, sugar, salt, edible oil & cement.

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