



Press Release

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IRCTC, ICICI Bank launches Railway Ticket Booking via SMS

Indian Railways Catering And Tourism Development Corporation (IRCTC), Asia's largest e-Commerce Website and ICICI Bank, India's second largest bank, today announced the launch of **"Railway Ticket Booking via SMS"** facility which allows IRCTC customers to book railway tickets via SMS and make payments through their ICICI Bank accounts.

Registered users of IRCTC and ICICI Bank Mobile Banking can use the IRCTC Short Code- 7245 and book their tickets through just 2 SMS messages – for placing booking request and approving price and tickets. On the final approval, the amount will get debited from the customer's ICICI Bank account. This service can be currently availed by IDEA Cellular, MTNL-Delhi & NCR, and Reliance Infocomm.

This innovative service from IRCTC coupled with the other applications providing Mobile Reservation and Information services is expected to be the next big step in Mobile commerce in India.

Mr. M.N. Chopra, Managing Director, IRCTC said, "When we started off our Internet Reservation Services we had one agenda, 'Instead of the Customer coming to the Passenger Reservation System (PRS), the PRS should go to the Customer!' With the Mobile reservation applications, we hope to make the Customers even more happy by bringing the PRS right into their Mobile handsets!"

Ms. Chanda Kochhar, Executive Director, ICICI Bank, said "The launch of railway ticket booking via SMS once again reiterates ICICI Bank's position as a pioneer in the Indian Banking industry. This service will undeniably revolutionize the online railway ticketing service by offering customers an alternate ticket-booking channel, thus providing complete online fulfillment by enabling them to conduct their bookings with ease even when on the move".

About IRCTC:

The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) is a public sector company set up and fully owned by the Ministry of Railways. This company has been formed to function as an extended arm of the Indian Railways to upgrade, professionalise and manage the catering and hospitality services at stations, on trains and other locations and to promote domestic and international tourism through development of budget hotels, special tour packages, information & commercial publicity and global reservation systems.



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Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) pioneered the e-commerce business growth in Indian by enabling millions of Rail users to plan, book and pay online for their Railway Tickets through the website www.irctc.co.in. Having launched the online services in August 2002, booking about 100 tickets a day in the New Delhi / NCR area, this website today is one of the largest B2C e-commerce sites in Asia with over 1.5 million registered users. This website today books over 1.8 million tickets annually with an annual turnovers approaching Rs. 3 billion.

About ICICI Bank:

ICICI Bank (NYSE:IBN) is India's second largest bank with an asset base of Rs.1812.27 billion as on June 30, 2005. ICICI Bank provides a broad spectrum of financial services to individuals and companies. This includes mortgages, car and personal loans, credit and debit cards, corporate and agricultural finance. The Bank services a growing customer base of more than 13 million customers through a multi-channel access network which includes over 570 branches and extension counters, 2025 ATMs, call centres and Internet banking (www.icicibank.com).

Except for the historical information contained herein, statements in this release, which contain words or phrases such as 'will', 'would', etc., and similar expressions or variations of such expressions may constitute 'forward-looking statements'. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to our ability to obtain statutory and regulatory approvals and to successfully implement our strategy, future levels of non-performing loans, our growth and expansion in business, the adequacy of our allowance for credit losses, technological implementation and changes, the actual growth in demand for banking products and services, investment income, cash flow projections, our exposure to market risks as well as other risks detailed in the reports filed by us with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. ICICI Bank undertakes no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date thereof.

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