Biometric Token System in Railways

The Western and Central Railways have introduced a Biometric Token System (BTS) that seeks **to streamline the process of boarding unreserved coaches** ('general' compartment).

Biometric Token System

- Biometric Token System (BTS) is a system by which passengers travelling in the general coach, where seats are not reserved, are **given a token** roughly **three hours before the train's departure.**
- These tokens are given on a **first-come, first-served basis**, and carry a serial number on them, which governs the order in which passengers will board the train.

  - Tokens are **issued after accepting biometric information** of individual passengers.
  - Passengers with valid tickets are required to place their fingers on a scanner, and are issued a token with a serial number against their biometric data.
- The biometric data captured in the machines will be stored locally with the authorities for a year.

  - The data will be used to analyse the pattern of crowds and the number of people using a train.
  - In case of a mishap, the railway authorities will have details of the passengers.
- The use of biometrics **prevent black marketing of unreserved tickets.**
- The token system helps in turning unmanageable crowds into **well-managed, disciplined groups.**

Source: IE

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