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Title: Need to provide disabled-friendly facilities in public buildings and transport system.

SHRI RITESH PANDEY (AMBEDKAR NAGAR): The Disabilities Bill passed in Parliament in 2016 recommended setting a deadline for the creation of barrier-free access to buildings and transportation systems. Under the Accessible India Campaign, 50% of public buildings and public transport were to be made fully accessible to the disabled population by July 2018. It is now July 2019, and less than 5% of public buildings have become accessible according to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. As per the 2011 Census Data persons with Disabilities are estimated to be 2.68 crore.

This lack of access to crucial public services creates a hostile environment for the self-reliance of people with disabilities, one where performing even routine tasks like boarding a bus, going to the bank, to school becomes a challenge. I urge the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment to ensure the successful completion of the targets set forth by the government to improve disability access, and facilitate a disability-friendly environment in the provision of public services.