

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2348

ANSWERED ON:06.03.2003

FACILITIES FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS AT RAILWAY STATIONS

RAMSHETH THAKUR;UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the various NGOs have suggested to the railways to improve the facilities and access for handicapped persons at railway stations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Indian Railways have sought the help of the National Institute of Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata to design modern stations for the use of physically handicapped persons;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the response of the National Institute of Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata in this regard;
- (f) the names of the railway stations selected for providing facilities to handicapped in the country;
- (g) the time by which the said facilities are likely to be provided to the handicapped at the railways stations; and
- (h) the funds allocated for the purpose?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a)&(b): Various representations are received from NGOs, VIPs and general Public for providing facilities for the handicapped persons. The demands made therein include provision of ramps for barrier free entry, non-slippery walkway, disabled friendly drinking water taps, toilets etc. suited to the needs of handicapped persons.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d)&(e): National Institute of Orthopaedically Handicapped (NIOH) was approached by the Railways' research wing - Research, Design & Standards Organisation, Lucknow, for sharing their reports and guidelines on new schemes for implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of rights and full participation) Act, 1995. The response of NIOH was positive and information was collected.

(f): Zonal Railways have been directed to provide the facilities for handicapped persons at all 'A' category station in the 1st Phase. These include all major stations like Delhi Jn., New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Howrah, Sealdah, Allahabad Jn., Jammu Tawi, Lucknow, Gwalior, Bangalore, Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Vasco-da-Gama, Rourkela, Visakhapatnam, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, etc.

(g)&(h): No separate funds are allocated for these works and these works are financed from the provision made under the Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities' (The funds allotted under this Planhead is Rs. 205 crore for the year 2003-04). Railways have been directed to provide these facilities at the earliest within the available resources.