

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1640
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
VIJAYAWADA AND SECUNDERABAD RAILWAY STATIONS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any expert team has been invited from the World Bank to study on how best to make our Railway Stations like Vijayawada and Secunderabad more functional and passenger-friendly;
- (b) whether the designs of these two busy stations in Andhra Pradesh are extremely difficult for elderly people and handicapped people;
- (c) whether the designs of the two railway Stations could be modified so that passengers would have easy access to enter and exit from the trains;
- (d) whether any effort has been made to see whether vehicles and passengers could alight directly at the trains as was the practice in some stations earlier; and
- (e) the steps proposed by railways to use novel ideas and new designers to solve this problem?

Answer

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

(a): No, Sir.

(b)&(c): At Vijayawada station, all facilities for handicapped & elderly people, as per laid down norms, have been provided. Therefore, modification in the design of station building is not required. At Secunderabad station, there is direct access from parking lot to the platform no. 1. Other facilities for physically handicapped like non-slippery walkway, water booths etc. have been provided. The design of Secunderabad station can be improved to provide easy access and exit from trains.

(d)&(e): Yes, Sir. The work of improvement to circulating area and construction of new station building on Boiguda side of Secunderabad station has been sanctioned which include direct access to passengers from circulating area to trains on new platform no. 10.