

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3934  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2001  
HANDICAPPED FRIENDLY COACH IN EVERY TRAIN  
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**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Railways has proposed to attach one handicap friendly coach in every train;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which such coaches will be introduced in all the trains; and
- (d) the steps being proposed to enable handicapped persons to use such facilities?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIST RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a)&(b) Railways have started production of new design Second Class, Guard cum luggage (SLR) type coaches with adaptations to facilitate use by handicapped passengers. About 80 such coaches have already been introduced in service.

(c) From 1.4.2001 onwards all new SLR type coaches are being turned out from the Production Units as handicapped friendly. These coaches will be in replacement of existing SLR coaches as the later become overaged. Introduction of such coaches on all the trains will therefore, be a gradual process spread over many years.

(d) The following steps are being taken by railways to facilitate use of railway facilities by handicapped passengers subjected to availability of resources.

1. Regarding Coach design:

- (i) Introduction of new design of SLR type coaches with facilities for handicapped passengers.
- (ii) Further improvement of the coach design to improve access by disabled passengers.

2. Regarding facilities at stations:

Phase I:

Short term facilities at `A` category stations to be taken up first are as under:

- (i) Provision of standard ramp with railing for barrier free entry.
- (ii) Earmarking at least two parking lots for vehicles used by disabled persons.
- (iii) Provision of signages of appropriate visibility.
- (iv) Provision of at least one drinking water tap suitable for use by disabled persons.

(v) Provision of at least one toilet on the ground floor.

(vi) Provision of a non-slippery walkway from parking lot to building.

Long term facilities at `A` category stations are to be provided within 3 years. These would include:

(i) Provision of facility for inter platform transfer.

(ii) Engraving on edges at Platform.

Phase-II

After Phase-I has been completed, short term facilities would be provided at all `B` and `D` category station. Decision to further extend the long term facilities would be taken thereafter.