

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2308
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PASSENGERS FRIENDLY COACHES
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Research Design and Standard Organization of Railways (RDSO) has decided to change the design of railway bogies for convenience of physically challenged passengers on the suggestion of an NGO;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said change is likely to make a difference in the number of passengers to be accommodated in a railway coach; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b) Improvement in facilities and optimization of layout directed towards greater comfort to physically challenged passengers has been a focus area. Indian Railway have already been manufacturing such coaches with disabled friendly compartment since 2001-02 . RDSO is also consulting Samarthyaa- National Center for Promotion of Barrier Free Environment for Disabled Persons- a Delhi based NGO for inputs to ensure further improvements in coach lay out to optimize the space and amenities required for disabled passengers.

(c)& (d) while providing additional facilities, efforts are made not to reduce the total carrying capacity of the coach.