

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:882
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2010
FACILITIES FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS
Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have any data about the total number of physically challenged passengers travelled in long distance trains during 2009-2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken to maintain the information henceforth;
- (c) whether there is no provision for ramp etc. in railway coaches for easy movement of physically challenged passengers in trains;
- (d) if so, the steps taken to change the coach design accordingly; and
- (e) the steps taken to provide wheel chairs with attendants and ramps for the benefit of physically challenged passengers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) and (b): The number of orthopedically handicapped/ paraplegic persons travelling on concession tickets in reserved segment during the year 2009-2010 is approximately 9.84 lakh.

(c) and (d): Indian Railways have been manufacturing passenger coaches with specially designed compartments & toilets for wheel chair borne passengers. Facilities for ramp etc. for ingress/egress are not available in the current designs of coaches.

(e): Facilities already exist for provision of wheel chairs at stations. This service is provided free of cost, duly escorted by coolies (on payment) as per present practice. Zonal Railways are also attempting to provide 'Battery Operated Vehicles for Disabled and Old Age Passengers' at railway stations through commercial publicity route.

All major railway stations have been provided with ramps at exit/entry. Ramps and pathways have also been provided at the end of the platforms at all major railway stations to facilitate inter-platform transfer for physically challenged passengers. Provision of ramps at remaining stations is undertaken by Railways in a phased manner.