

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1787
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2011
FACILITIES FOR DISABLED
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have any plan to construct special disabled-friendly coaches on all railway routes;
- (b) if so, the present implementation status of this plan, zone -wise;
- (c) whether reserved coaches for disabled passengers are not adequately available in the trains;
- (d) if so, the details of trains which have this facility;
- (e) whether the platforms in the country, including Mumbai sub-urban routes are disabled friendly;
- (f) if not, the steps taken in this regard; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Railways to provide specially designed lavatories, and make all the railway stations disabled friendly?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Indian Railways have already manufactured about 2100 coaches which have suitably designed compartment & toilet adapted to the needs of the wheel chair borne/differently abled persons. It is endeavored to have at least one such coach in each Mail/Express train.

Fully air conditioned Garib Rath trains have been provided with Air conditioned disabled friendly compartment & toilet in the power cars.

Likewise in suburban trains, EMU coaches have adequate doorway opening for entry and exit for wheel chair borne/disabled persons. Provision of earmarked compartments for disabled passengers also exists in select sub-urban Trains, including Mumbai.

(e) & (f) In pursuance of implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, amenities to make stations more accessible to handicapped persons have been planned to be provided through an action plan in phased manner. Such identified amenities are standard ramp, parking lots, non-slippery walkway, signages, toilets, water taps, 'May I Help You' booths and wheel chairs. Railways have also planned to provide facility of inter-platform transfer through use of pathways provided at the end of platforms for disabled persons particularly, those in wheel chairs. It has also been planned to provide barrier free access through provision of lifts/escalators over major and important railway stations which have been identified for development as world class stations. In the first phase, Category A-1 (58 stations), A (284 stations) and B (237 stations) on Indian Railways have been taken up.

In this regard, 2 lifts on platform Nos. 14/15, 16/17 and 18 at Mumbai CST station have been provided and provision has been made for escalators at Dadar, Thane and Kalyan railway stations. Battery operated cart like golf cart is provided at Mumbai CST station. Wheel chairs are provided at stations over Mumbai Sub-urban section. Low level handrail is provided at staircases of foot over bridge. Signages are made available at stations of sub-urban stations. Seating arrangements in front of handicapped compartment on platforms at sub-urban stations have been provided. Parking facilities for disabled passengers has been provided at Mumbai Central (Main) and Bandra Terminus stations have been provided.

(g) Out of the 342 'A-1' and 'A' category stations on Indian Railways, public conveniences in the form of toilets and water booths, suited for disabled passengers, have been provided at 322 stations. Standard ramps for providing access to stations have been provided at 338 stations. In addition, ramps at ends of platforms have been provided at 277 of these stations to facilitate inter-platform transfer. Ramps have also been provided at Foot over Bridges at 64 such stations.