

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:308
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2012
RESERVATION FOR PATIENTS IN TRAINS
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the various concessions granted including complementary/free /privileged passes provided to the passengers alongwith the revenue implications thereon during each of the last two years;
- (b) the details of the category of passengers to whom concessional railway tickets/free/complementary/privileged passes are issued and classes/types of trains in which these are permissible/admissible;
- (c) whether the Railways provide concession and overriding priority in reservation to critically ill patients, especially the poor senior citizens, who need immediate specialized treatment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the diseases/ailments covered under this dispensation?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 308 BY SHRI J. M. AARON RASHID TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.04.2012 REGARDING RESERVATION FOR PATIENTS IN TRAINS

(a) & (b): Indian Railways extend travel concessions and issue complimentary free passes, privilege passes, etc. to various categories of travellers. Travel concessions are granted in various classes of travel to more than 50 categories of travellers, such as students, senior citizens, certain categories of disabled persons, Patients, Doctors, Artists, Sports-persons, Press correspondents, Kisans and others. The element of concession ranges from 10% to 100%. The details are given in Appendix-I.

Further, Complimentary Card passes are issued under nine categories which include Bharat Ratna awardees, Freedom fighters, Sportspersons, Gallantry awardees, Non-official members of Railway Hindi Salahakar Samiti, Office bearers engaged in propagation of Hindi and others. The validity of the Complimentary Card pass and the class of pass varies according to the category. The details are given in Appendix-II. In addition, Privilege, Post retirement and Widow passes are issued to Railway employees/their dependents as a part of their service conditions.

The total value of revenue foregone on account of concessions granted and issue of complimentary free passes, etc. during the last two years is approximately as under:

Year Value of revenue foregone

2010-11 Rs. 1190.79 Crores

2011-12 Rs. 1436.10 Crores

(c) & (d): Indian Railways already provide concessions to different categories of patients such as those suffering from Cancer, Thalessemia, Heart disease, Kidney ailment, Haemophilia, Tuberculosis/Lupas Valgaris, Leprosy, AIDS, Ostomy etc. One escort each with the patients of Cancer, Thalessemia, Heart disease, Kidney ailment, Haemophilia, Tuberculosis/Lupas Valgaris are also eligible for concessions. Instructions have also been issued to grant 50% concession in sleeper, AC Chair Car, AC 3Tier and AC 2 Tier classes to Sickle cell Anaemia and Aplastic Anaemia patients w.e.f. 01.06.2012.

The following train accommodation/reservation facilities have been extended to senior citizens and patients by Indian Railways.

(i) A separate cancer patient quota has been earmarked for cancer patients and their attendants travelling on concession, to and from

the hospitals/institutes for treatment, on several trains.

(ii) Limited direct access to emergency quota has been given to cancer patients travelling on concession.

(iii) Separate reservation quota has been earmarked for senior citizens travelling alone, female passengers of 45 years of age and above and pregnant women.

(iv) Lower berths are automatically allotted to male passengers of 60 years and above (senior citizens) and female passengers of 45 years and above subject to availability of lower berths at the time of booking of tickets.