

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1142
ANSWERED ON 16.12.2022

IMPORTANT RAILWAY STATIONS

1142. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) how many railway stations have been deemed “important railway stations” for providing wheelchair facilities and Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel services as mentioned in Annual Report of Indian Railways 2020-21;
- (b) whether Railways plans to ensure such basic facilities in all railway stations;
- (c) if so, the details of the same, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether earmarking of berths for Divyangs is proposed for other sections as it is presently limited to non-suburban sections only; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1142 BY SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 16.12.2022 REGARDING IMPORTANT RAILWAY STATIONS.

(a) to (c): At present, wheelchairs are available at around 5433 Railway stations over Indian Railways and this facility is gradually extended depending upon the needs and patronage of the station. The Wheelchairs are provided by Railways and are given to attendants of the Divyangjan, Senior Citizens, etc. free of cost to escort them from and to the trains. However, upgradation/provision of passenger amenities at railway stations is a continuous process and works in this regard are undertaken depending upon need, volume of passenger traffic and inter-se priority, subject to availability of funds.

There are 1415 RPF Post/Out Post at important Railway stations over Indian Railways, where services of Railway Protection Force personnel are available. Law and Order is the State subject. Security of travelling passengers in Railways is primarily the responsibility of GRP and Local Police. State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime against passengers and their personal belongings and maintaining law and order etc. on Railways through their law enforcement agencies viz. Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) only supplements the efforts of GRP/District Police to provide better protection and security of passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith.

(d) & (e): In addition to reserved accommodation being earmarked for Persons with Disability (Divyangjans) on non-suburban sections, separate unreserved accommodation is already earmarked on suburban sections for Persons with Disability (Divyangjans).
