

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2851
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2023

FACILITIES GIVEN TO COOLIES

2851 SHRI RAKESH SINHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of coolies at railway stations;
- (b) the facilities which are being given to them;
- (c) the manner in which the Railways treat them in terms of their identity;
- (d) whether Government gives them special health package and quota for admission of their children in Government schools; and
- (e) whether they get railway pass?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a): At present, 18,945 (approx.) Sahayaks (coolies/licensed porters) are available over Indian Railways.
- (b): Various facilities like Uniform (3 red shirts & one woolen shirt every year), Complimentary pass, Medical facility, Free education facility for their wards and rest room facility are being given to the Sahayaks.
- (c): Sahayaks are provided with a unique number along with a badge which they have to carry all the time. Red colour uniforms are also provided to them for easy identification by passengers.
- (d): Indian Railways provide medical facilities to Sahayaks and their family members which has been extended at par with Railway employees and family members at Railway hospitals and health units where Sahayak is presently working including for referral to other Railway Health Units/Railway Hospitals but not to private hospitals empanelled with Railways. However, those Sahayaks who are registered with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana will get medical facilities in Railways Hospitals/Railway Health Units. Free educational facilities are also available for wards of Sahayaks in the schools run by Railway and Railwayman's Organizations / Mahila Samitis.

(e): Yes, Sir. In a Calendar Year 01 set of Complimentary 'Admin' Cheque Pass and 02 sets of Privilege Ticket Orders of Second/Sleeper Class are extended to Sahayaks.
