

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2984
ANSWERED ON 20.12.2024

POOR WORKING CONDITION OF WOMEN LOCO PILOTS

2984. Dr. FAUZIA KHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the poor working conditions of women loco-pilots like the absence of basic facilities like toilets on locomotives and separate spaces including changing rooms and washrooms for women in running rooms;
- (b) if so, the details of measures taken to improve their working conditions;
- (c) whether any audit has been conducted to assess the working condition of women loco pilots and running staff; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d):

1. Loco Pilots are important members of Indian Railway family who play pivotal role for moving passenger and goods traffic in safe and efficient manner. Indian Railways is committed to ensure proper working conditions for loco pilots.
2. Before 2014, no locomotive was fitted with urinal facility. Initiatives have been taken to provide waterless urinal facilities in locomotives since 2018 based on feasibility. Till date 883 Locomotives have been fitted with waterless urinal facilities.
3. To facilitate good quality of rest to loco running staff at outstation, following measures are being taken in respect of Running rooms:
 - All 558 running rooms have been air-conditioned. This was zero in 2013-14.

-: 2 : -

- Separate rooms/cubicles with washroom facilities are being provided to female loco running staff, in running rooms, as per requirement.
- Running staff are also provided with Yoga and meditation room, reading room with newspaper and magazines for relaxing in accordance with their requirements.
- Loco pilots have to keep a continuous watch on track and signals involving long hours of standing while driving in the locomotive. Therefore, amenities such as foot massager and other recreational facilities are made available in running rooms.
- Provision for subsidized meals in running rooms.
- Availability of RO water filters in running rooms.
- Various safety drives & special counseling programs are regularly organized for checking the alertness and safety awareness among the running staff. Special safety seminars & meetings are organized for interaction with family members of running staff for educating on role of quality rest in life of running staff.
