

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1715**  
**ANSWERED ON 13.02.2026**

**REINSTATING RAILWAY CONCESSIONS FOR JOURNALISTS**

1715 SMT. RAJATHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of accredited journalists who availed railway concessions annually in the three years preceding the 2020 suspension;
- (b) the estimated annual financial savings accrued to the Railways specifically from the suspension of journalist concessions from 2020 to 2025;
- (c) the number of representations received from National and State-level journalist associations since 2020 requesting the restoration of travel benefits; and
- (d) the reasons for the continued delay in reinstating this benefit despite the full normalisation of rail operations?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): Indian Railways strives to provide affordable services to all strata of the society and gave subsidy of Rs. 60,466 cr on passenger tickets in 2023-24. This amounts to concession of 45% on an average, to every person, travelling on Railways. In other words, if the cost of providing service is Rs. 100, then the price of ticket is Rs. 55 only. This subsidy is continuing for all passengers. Further, concessions beyond this subsidy amount are continuing for many categories like 4 categories of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjans), 11 categories of patients and 8 categories of students.

Proposals/requests/suggestions/representations, both formal and informal for different facilities/Works across the country are received from State Governments, Members of Parliament, Ministries of Central Government, elected representatives, Railways' own requirements, organizations/rail users etc. at various levels including Railway Board, Zonal Railways, Division Office etc. As receipt of such proposals/complaints/suggestions is a continuous and dynamic process, centralized compendium of such requests is not maintained. However, these are examined and action as found feasible and justified is taken from time to time.

Further, number of passengers availing the concession in different classes and in different trains over various Zonal Railways varies from year to year.

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