

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1798
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2017**

ALLOTMENT OF BERTHS FOR DISABLED

1798. SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cases of allotting upper berths in trains to the disabled passengers including wheelchair bound para athlete have come to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years and the current year, and if so, the details thereof, zone-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in such cases and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has developed disabled friendly infrastructure at all the railway stations of the country and if so, the details thereof, zone-wise; and**
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government to ensure lower berths to disabled passengers and disabled friendly infrastructure at all the railway stations of the country?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1798 BY SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.07.2017 REGARDING ALLOTMENT OF BERTHS FOR DISABLED.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Recently, a case has been reported where a person with disability, Ms. Suvarna Raj, who is also an international para-athlete, was allotted upper berth in Train no. 12611 Chennai – Nizamuddin Garib Rath Express for journey dated 10.06.2017 from Nagpur to Nizamuddin.

In Garib Rath express trains, a specially designed coach for persons with disability known as (SLRD) coach is attached where four berths, two lower berths and two upper berths are available for travel of persons with disability. In one such coach of above mentioned train, a person with disability had booked a ticket along with an attendant whose age was 62 years. Since the attendant was senior citizen, the system allotted both lower berths – one to person with disability and second to attendant leaving both upper berths vacant. When the next person with disability, Ms. Suvarna Raj booked accommodation ex. Nagpur in this train, the system allotted the available upper berths to her and her attendant. It was also found that at the time of booking of accommodation by Ms. Suvarna Raj, there was no vacancy in general quota.

(c) & (d) : In order to provide better accessibility to persons with disability, short term facilities as detailed below have been planned at all stations, beginning with 'A-1', 'A' & ' B ' category stations:

- Standard ramp for barrier free entry.**
- Earmarking at least two parking lots.**

- **Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to station building.**
- **Signages of appropriate visibility.**
- **At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by differently-abled persons.**
- **At least one toilet (on the ground floor).**
- **‘ May I help you ’ Booth.**

In addition, long term facilities, as detailed below, have been planned at ‘A-1’, ‘A’ & ‘ B ’ category stations:

- **Engraving on edges of platform.**
- **Provision of facility for inter-platform transfer.**

Zone-wise details of railway stations provided with facilities for persons with disability as on 30.06.2017 are appended.

With a view to ensuring allotment of lower berths to persons with disability, following steps have been taken:-

- (i) **In addition to four berths in Sleeper class being earmarked for persons with disability(2 lower berths for the persons with disability and two upper/middle berths, for the escort) it has been decided to earmark a reservation quota of two berths in 3AC for persons with disability (lower berth for persons with disability and middle berth for their escort). This is in addition to the existing facility of booking in SLRD coaches of Garib Rath Express trains available to the persons with disability.**

(ii) Instructions have also been issued to make provision in the system to allot only lower berths to persons with disability in SLRD coaches of Garib Rath Express trains and upper berth to their attendant irrespective of the age of the attendant. In case any person with disability books accommodation without attendant, the upper berth will be kept vacant and released to RAC/waitlist passengers at the time of preparation of reservation charts.

APPENDIX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1798 BY SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.07.2017 REGARDING ALLOTMENT OF BERTHS FOR DISABLED.

Sl. No	Railway	Provision of Standard Ramp	Earmarking two parking lots for differently abled	Provision of nonslippery walkway from parking to Station Building	Provision of Signages	Provision of at least one drinking water tap	Provision of at least one differently abled friendly toilet	'May I help you' booth	Engraving of edges of platforms	Trolley path at ends of platforms
		No. of stations	No. of stations	No. of stations	No. of stations	No. of stations	No. of stations	No. of stations	No. of stations	No. of stations
1	Central	278	200	149	219	329	222	188	184	64
2	East Coast	47	37	35	40	44	36	27	218	40
3	East Central	64	43	49	54	50	48	49	83	48
4	Eastern	172	55	74	143	109	128	32	59	46
5	North Central	38	35	33	33	54	38	31	28	30
6	North Eastern	196	70	65	65	77	69	61	64	67
7	Northeast Frontier	181	62	134	141	145	377	114	91	49
8	Northern	159	161	210	103	228	159	101	115	116
9	North Western	84	38	41	49	78	77	53	250	41

10	South Central	275	199	208	168	167	153	91	203	242
11	South East Central	34	29	28	27	30	34	25	40	25
12	South Eastern	98	31	36	35	58	37	33	72	34
13	Southern	137	79	86	81	95	87	73	83	237
14	South Western	85	40	38	46	40	30	30	68	68
15	West Central	34	35	33	34	35	35	33	30	25
16	Western	195	84	76	99	151	128	77	139	43
	Total	2077	1198	1295	1337	1690	1658	1018	1727	1175
