### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2002 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.03.2018

#### **FACILITIES FOR DISABLED PERSONS**

#### †2002. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways provides wheel chair/battery operated vehicles, escalators and coaches having the brail facilities for the disabled and Divyangs in trains and platforms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise;
- (c) the number of such railway stations where facility of escalators/elevators is available to cross foot over bridge to reach on one platform to the other for senior citizens/disabled and Divyangs;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take any new steps for providing facility to disabled/Divyangs and senior citizens; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **ANSWER**

## MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2002 BY SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.03.2018 REGARDING FACILITIES FOR DISABLED PERSONS

- (a) & (b): No, Madam. At present, the Braille facility on wheelchairs/battery operated vehicles & escalators are not available in Indian Railways. However, for the assistance of visually impaired travellers, Integrated Braille signages, i.e. signages superimposed with Braille scripts are being provided in the newly manufactured coaches of Indian Railways (IR). In addition, retro-fitment of the same in existing coaches has also been taken up in a phased manner.
- (c): Railways has provided 467 escalators at 171 railway stations and 318 elevators at 134 railway stations for senior citizens/disabled/ Divyangs.
- (d) & (e): Yes, Madam. Provision/augmentation of amenities at stations, including those for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) and elderly passengers is a continuous process. In order to provide better accessibility to Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) and elderly passengers, short term facilities as detailed below have been planned at all the stations:
  - Standard ramp for barrier free entry.
  - Earmarking at least two parking lots.
  - Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to building.
  - Signages of appropriate visibility.
  - At least one toilet (on the ground floor).
  - At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan).
  - 'May I help you' Booth.

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

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

Details of railway stations provided with facilities for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) are as under:

S.No.	Facilities for Persons with Disabilities	Approx. Number of
	(Divyangjan)	stations.
1	Standard ramp for barrier free entry	2350
2	Earmarking at least two parking lots	1350
3	Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to building	1410
4	Signages of appropriate visibility.	1430
5	At least one toilet (on the ground floor).	1850
6	At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by differently-abled persons	1790
7	'May I help you' Booth	1080
8	Provision of facility for inter-platform transfer	1240
9	Engraving on edges of platform	1780

Railways has decided to provide escalators at all the A1, A & C category stations (footfall 25000 or above). Additionally railways has also planned to provide elevators at 500 more stations. About 3800 disabled friendly Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches are available in the fleet of Indian Railways (IR). These coaches have a suitably designed compartment & toilet adapted to the needs of the disabled/Divyangs. More disabled friendly coaches shall be added to the fleet of IR in the coming years. It is endeavoured to have at least one such ICR design coach in each Mail/Express train running with ICF coaches. Further, the fully air conditioned (WRRMDAC) Garib Rath trains have been provided with an Air conditioned disabled friendly compartment in the power cars.

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