

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1642
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2021**

DISABLED ACCESSIBLE STATIONS

1642. SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has conducted a study to identify types of disabilities to provide monetary and infrastructural benefits and; if so, the categories identified thereof;**
- (b) the statistics on fund allocation for development of disabled-friendly stations and improvement of existing ones, State-wise;**
- (c) the year-wise statistics, 1950 to present, on the number of disabled passengers State-wise;**
- (d) whether disability access at railway stations has increased, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and**
- (e) whether there has been a phase-wise and cumulative target set for complete disabled accessible railway stations in the country and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS
& INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1642 BY SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.12.2021 REGARDING DISABLED ACCESSIBLE STATIONS

(a): Indian Railways provide concessions in Passenger fare to 4 categories of Persons with disabilities (Divyangjan). The details are as under:-

S. No	CATEGORY OF PERSONS	PERCENTAGE OF CONCESSION
1	Orthopaedically Handicapped/ Paraplegic persons who cannot travel without escort – for any purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% in second class, Second sleeper, First Class, AC-3 tier, AC chair Car
2	Mentally retarded persons who cannot travel without escort - for any purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% in First AC and AC-2 tier, • 25% in AC 3 tier & AC Chair Car of Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains
3	Person with visual impairment with total absence of sight travelling alone or with an escort - for any purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% in Monthly Season Ticket and Quarterly Season Tickets. • One escort is also eligible for same element of concession
4	Person with hearing and speech impairment totally (both afflictions together in the same person) travelling alone or with an escort - for any purpose.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% in second class, Second sleeper and First Class • 50% in Monthly Season Ticket and Quarterly Season Tickets <p>One escort is also eligible for same element of concession.</p>

(b): Works for all passenger amenities including facilities for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) at Railway stations are generally funded under Plan Head – 53 ‘Passenger Amenities’. No separate accountal is made for expenditure on amenities for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan). However, in financial year 2020-21, a dedicated umbrella work for provision of “Minimum Essential Amenities and facilities for Divyangjan at stations over Indian Railways” has been created.

(c): Number of Persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) Passengers state wise since 1950 is not maintained separately. However, the total number of Persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) Passengers travelled on concessional fare as per their eligibility during last five years are as under:

Period	Passengers (In Crore) (Approx)
2015-16	0.93
2016-17	0.98
2017-18	1.18
2018-19	1.22
2019-20	1.19

(d) & (e): In the year 2015, a target was set to make A1, A & B category railway stations fully accessible. Consequently, all 709 A-1, A & B category railway stations (erstwhile) have been provided with facilities such as ramps, reserved parking near entrance, accessible toilets, accessible drinking water facilities, signages etc. to make railway stations accessible for Divyangjans.

Further in February, 2020 the harmonized guidelines for accessibility of Railways have been circulated for implementation over Indian railways. According to these guidelines, Indian Railways endeavor to provide comprehensive facilities and services to

Divyangjan, which inter-alia include an easy use of information system, accessible infrastructure, various concessions to passengers travelling on Divyangjan concession Tickets, Human Assistance, Wheel Chairs, Signages, etc.

Further, Improvement /augmentation of amenities for passengers (including Divyangjan) at Railway Stations is an ongoing and continuous process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds.
