

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4175
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025**

FACILITIES TO RAILWAY PORTERS

†4175 SHRI MURARI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to bring porters under the Minimum Wages Act, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is considering to provide regular pay scales and benefits of social security schemes to porters if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government is considering to provide modern equipments (trolleys, bag carriers) to make the work of porters more systematic and dignified, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the porters have been covered under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (Ayushman Bharat) and the other Government Health Schemes if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government is considering to provide accident insurance and life insurance schemes to porters if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) whether the Government is taking steps to ensure proper arrangements of rest houses, drinking water, medical aid and toilets for porters at railway stations and other public places, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (f): Sahayaks (Licensed Porters/Coolies) are licensees who have been granted license for carrying luggage of passengers at portage charges directly payable by the passengers to the Sahayaks. The facilities which are provided to Sahayaks are as follows:

(i) Pass/PTO facility: One set of 'Complimentary Admin' Cheque Pass and two sets of Privilege Ticket Order of Second/Sleeper class in a Calendar year.

(ii) Education facility: Free educational facilities are available for wards of Sahayaks in the schools run by Railways' and Railwaymen's Organisations/Mahila Samities.

(iii) Uniform facility: Three red shirts and one woollen shirt as uniform are supplied every year.

(iv) Medical facility: Medical facilities to Railway porters and their family members are being provided at par with Railways employees and family members as defined in Railway Medical Rules at the Railway Hospitals/Railway Health Units where porter is presently working including for referral to other Railway Health Units/Railway Hospitals but not to private hospitals empanelled with Railways.

(v) Rest room facility: Zonal Railways have been instructed to provide restrooms for Sahayaks at all stations with provision of potable water, barrack beds, etc. and to progressively provide restrooms with TV and RO water at stations having strength of 50 or more Sahayaks.

Moreover, Sahayaks can also avail themselves of the schemes like Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PM-SBY) and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PM-JJBY) which are open for all.

Sahayaks can use Railways' light trollies/hand barrows, wherever available, free of cost for carriage of passenger's luggage.