

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4529
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025**

RESTORATION OF PASS FACILITY FOR JOURNALISTS

4529. SHRI PUTTA MAHESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the complimentary railway pass facility for accredited journalists was discontinued during the COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether any representations have been received from journalist associations or media professionals requesting restoration of this facility and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating reinstating the railway pass facility in view of the crucial role played by journalists in ensuring timely and transparent information dissemination; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

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 crore 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.
