

5. An amendment is under examination in the RPF Act to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

Realisation of dues by IRCTC from food catering companies

†1446. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether IRCTC has received payment from all food catering companies;
- (b) if not, the number of companies which have not yet made payment along with the amount due from each of them and the details of such trains;
- (c) whether all the above mentioned matters have been investigated into; and
- (d) if so, whether any action has been taken against the persons responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d)
The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

Facilities for Physically challenged passengers

1447. SHRIMATI. NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data regarding total number of physically challenged passengers travelled in long distanced trains during 2009-2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken to maintain the information henceforth;
- (c) whether there is no provision for ramp etc. in railway coaches for easy ingress and egress for physically challenged passengers in trains;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the steps taken to change the coach design accordingly; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to provide wheel chairs with attendant and ramps for physically challenged passengers to enable them to reach railway platform easily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The number of orthopedically handicapped/paraplegic persons travelling on concession tickets in reserved segment during the year 2009-2010 is approximately 9.84 lakh.

(c) and (d) Indian Railways have been manufacturing passenger coaches with specially designed compartments & toilets for wheel chair borne passengers. Facilities for ramp etc. for ingress/egress are not available in the current designs of coaches.

Instructions already exist for provision of wheel chairs at stations. This facility is provided, duly escorted by coolies (on payment) as per present practice. Moreover, Zonal Railways have also been advised to provide free of cost 'Battery Operated Vehicles for Disabled and Old Age Passengers' at railway stations through commercial publicity route.

All major railway stations have been provided with ramps at exit/entry. Ramps and pathways have also been provided at the end of the platforms at all major railway stations to facilitate inter-platform transfer for physically challenged passengers. Provision of ramps at remaining stations is undertaken by Railways in a phased manner.

Train accidents

1448. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of train accidents occurred during last one year;

(b) the details of number of people killed/injured in these accidents along with the amount of compensation given to the dependents of deceased;