

Free wi-fi at railway stations

2288. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the status of free wi-fi services being rolled out at railway stations across the country in the months to come, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Railway plans to roll out wi-fi facility in all A1 category stations in the current financial year.

Revenue foregone on account of concessions

2289. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise data on revenue foregone due to concessions provided for passenger rail services to 53 categories;

(b) the year when these concessions were started, category-wise; and

(c) whether the Ministry has any plans to reduce the burden of these concessions to the exchequer, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The category-wise data on revenue foregone due to concession being given in passenger fare to each categories of passengers is not maintained. However, as per data captured by Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), the revenue foregone due to concession being given to some of the major categories of concessional passengers during the year 2015-16 is as under:-

Category	Revenue Foregone (Approximately) (₹ in crores)
Physically challenged persons	107.13
Patients	81.66
Senior citizens	1285.99
Izzat MST	9.47
Others	118.69
TOTAL	1602.94

(b) Concessions to some of the categories in Railway fare were given even before 1950. However, the details of some of the major categories are as under:-

Sl. No.	Category	Year from which concession is given
1.	Orthopaedically handicapped	1961
2.	Deaf and Dumb	1985
3.	Paraplegic Persons	1985
4.	Press correspondents	1986
5.	Heart Patients	1986
6.	Mentally Retarded	1987
7.	War Widows	1987
8.	Thalassemia Patient	1987
9.	Awardee Teachers	1988
10.	Prime Minister Shram Awardees	1988
11.	Ostomy Patient	1988
12.	Widows of IPKF	1988
13.	Senior Citizen	1989
14.	President Police Medal for Distinguished Service	1999
15.	Widows of Martyrs of Kargil War	2000
16.	Kidney Patients	2003
17.	Allopathic Doctors	2003
18.	Haemophilia	2004
19.	Widows of Defence Personnel killed in action against Terrorists and Extremists	2004
20.	AIDS Patient	2008
21.	Izzat MST	2009
22.	Film Technicians	2010
23.	Aplastic Anaemia	2012
24.	Sickle Cell Anaemia	2012

(c) At present, there is no such proposal.