

- (i) Rigorous monitoring at Divisional, Zonal and Railway Board levels etc.
- (ii) Removal of infrastructure bottlenecks including saving train maintenance time in a planned manner.
- (iii) Standardization of rakes and provision of spare rakes to improve punctuality.
- (iv) Integrated Mega Blocks are planned in such a way that all asset maintenance departments can do their work simultaneously.
- (v) End to end running of some trains with diesel locomotives to avoid detention on account of loco changing from diesel to electric.
- (vi) Conversion of conventional rakes of Mail/Express trains (Integral Coach Factory rakes) into LHB (Linke Hoffmann Busch) rakes.
- (vii) Rationalization of Time Table in order to make a group of similar speed trains.
- (viii) Curtailment of stoppage time at major terminals etc.

Further, reduction of Pit-Line examination time and maintenance time is an identified priority of Indian Railways. A study has been commissioned for examining the reduction in Pit-Line examination time.

Accessible India campaign in Railways

765. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country has nearly 8,500 railway stations;
- (b) if so, details thereof, zone-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that only 3,700 stations have ramp for entry of disabled only, 2,000 stations have allotted parking lots and only 3,800 stations have toilets for disabled that too only one toilet in the entire station;
- (d) if so, how is Sugamya Bharat Mission or Accessible India Campaign which aims to provide accessibility to differently abled persons is justified; and
- (e) special efforts made by Railways to provide various facilities to disabled in all stations within a fixed time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir. There are 9,274 railway stations (for commercial purpose) on Indian Railways, at present.

(b) Zone-wise and State-wise list of railway stations is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) to (e) Indian Railways is committed to make its Railway Stations and trains accessible for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) as part of "Sugamya Bharat Mission" or Accessible India Campaign of Government of India. Improvement/ augmentation of amenities at Railway stations, including those for differently abled passengers is a continuous process.

The existing provisions in this regard are as follows:-

- (i) Instructions already exist for provision of Wheel Chair at stations. The Wheelchairs are provided by Railways on its own cost and are given to attendants of the Divyangjan, Senior Citizens absolutely 'free of cost' to escort them from and to the trains. However, whenever attendants are not willing or available, porters (Sahayaks) can be hired on pre-fixed nominal rate to escort the Divyangjan etc. Information in this regard are displayed at prominent places in railway station premises.
- (ii) Provision of one wheelchair per platform and in case of island platforms, one wheel chair per two platforms at all major stations.
- (iii) Yatri Mitra Sewa has been introduced at major railway stations for enabling passengers to book wheel chairs services cum porter services free of cost through NGOs, Charitable trust, PSUs etc. under CSR.
- (iv) Zonal Railways have been advised to sensitize the Station Superintendent/ Station Master/Dy. SS (Commercial) to be empathetic towards the needs and concerns of Divyangjan so that any Divyangjan passenger requiring assistance may approach them.
- (v) Disabled friendly toilets, ticket counters and earmarked parking facility are being provided at all major stations.
- (vi) Provision of Battery Operated Vehicles (BOVs) at some important stations for Divyangjans, Senior Citizens, Sick passengers and Pregnant women is being made 'free of cost' through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and commercial publicity route as well as on chargeable basis.

- (vii) Further, lifts are being provided at major Railway Stations as part of 'Sugamya Bharat Mission'. So far, 559 lifts at 239 stations (upto 31.01.2020) have been provided.
- (viii) Besides the above, IR has designed and incorporated SLRD (Second Class-cum-Luggage cum Guard Van and Disabled Friendly Compartment) ICF and LHB coaches with facilities like Wider entrance doors for entry of wheel chair, Wider aisles area, wider berths, wider compartments and Divyangjan friendly toilet with larger lavatory and lavatory doors, additional grab rails on the side walls, wash basin and mirror at a lower height. At present 3460 ICF type and 18 LHB SLRD coaches (as on 31.03.2019) are in operation over Indian railway.
- (ix) Short term facilities as detailed below have been planned at all stations:-

Sl. No.	Facility for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)	Approximate number of stations, where facility provided
1.	Standard ramp for barrier free entry	4064
2.	Earmarking at least two parking lots	2024
3.	Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to station building	2110
4.	Signages of appropriate visibility	1820
5.	At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)	3107
6.	At least one toilet (on the ground floor)	4201
7.	May I help you booth	1325

- (x) In addition, long term facilities as detailed below have been provided as under:-

- Provision of facility for inter-platform transfer.
- Engraving on edges of platform.

Statement

State-wise, railway-wise number of stations (for commercial purpose)

State	Total
Andhra Pradesh	485
Arunachal Pradesh	3

State	Total
Assam	319
Bihar	747
Chandigarh	1
Chhattisgarh	142
Delhi	49
Goa	21
Gujarat	713
Haryana	219
Himachal Pradesh	59
Jammu and Kashmir	35
Jharkhand	333
Karnataka	461
Kerala	186
Madhya Pradesh	563
Maharashtra	785
Manipur	2
Meghalaya	1
Mizoram	1
Nagaland	2
Odisha	307
Puducherry	4
Punjab	324
Rajasthan	614
Tamil Nadu	583
Telangana	237
Tripura	27

1	2
Uttarakhand	42
Uttar Pradesh	1191
West Bengal	818
TOTAL	9274
Name of Zone	Total
Central Railway	533
Eastern Railway	610
East Central Railway	732
East Coast Railway	319
Northern Railway	1080
North Central Railway	415
North Eastern Railway	492
Northeast Frontier Railway	555
North Western Railway	570
Southern Railway	780
South Central Railway	779
South Eastern Railway	386
South East Central Railway	321
South Western Railway	429
Western Railway	883
West Central Railway	299
Metro Railway	24
Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.	67
TOTAL	9274