

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.928
ANSWERED ON 09.02.2024

DISABLED FRIENDLY STATION

928 # SHRI BABURAM NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Ministry to make railway stations disabled friendly in the country;
- (b) the details of the number of stations being made disabled friendly in the country; and
- (c) the details of the number of stations that would be converted into disabled friendly stations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 928 BY SHRI BABURAM NISHAD ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 09.02.2024 REGARDING DISABLED FRIENDLY STATION

(a) to (c) In compliance with Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, “Guidelines on accessibility of Indian Railway stations and facilities at stations for differently abled persons (Divyangjans) and passengers with reduced mobility” was circulated and notified in the Gazette of India. The guidelines include provisions of Divyangjan related facilities such as entrance ramps, accessible parking, low height ticket counter/help booths, toilets, drinking water booth, sub-ways/foot over bridges with ramps/lifts, standard signages including Braille signages and tactile pathways for visual impairment etc.

Further, Ministry of Railways has launched ‘Amrit Bharat Station Scheme’ for development of Railway stations on Indian Railways. This scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach. So far, 1318 stations have been identified across Indian Railways.

It involves preparation of Master Plans and their implementation in phases to improve the amenities at the stations like improvement of station access, circulating areas, waiting halls, toilets, lift/escalators as necessary, cleanliness, free Wi-Fi, kiosks for local products through schemes like ‘One Station One Product’, better passenger information systems, Executive Lounges, nominated spaces for business meetings, landscaping etc. keeping in view the necessity at each station.

The scheme also envisages improvement of building, integrating the station with both sides of the city, multimodal integration, amenities for Divyangjans, sustainable and environment friendly solutions, provision of ballastless tracks, ‘Roof Plazas’ as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term so that the whole place becomes much more useful for the citizens.

The provision/upgradation of amenities for passengers including for Divyangjan is a continuous and on-going process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds. The priority for provision/upgradation of amenities is accorded to higher category of station over lower category of station while sanctioning and executing the work.
