

EARMARKING OF RESERVATION QUOTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN RAILWAYS

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

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Indian Railways offers various facilities for Divyangjans to make its services more convenient and accessible for differently-abled passengers

Recently railway board has decided that the following reservation quota meant for Divyangjans should be earmarked for Divyangjans in all reserved Mail/Express trains including Rajdhani/Shatabdi type trains viz. Rajdhani, Duronto, Vande Bharat, Humsafar, Gatimaan, Special trains on special fare etc. irrespective of the fact whether concessional fare facility is available to Divyangjans in such trains or not.

Allocations of berths in various classes and trains are as follows:

- i. Four berths in Sleeper class (two lower and two-middle).
- ii. Four berths in 3E or 3A class (two lower and two-middle). (The class out of these two i.e. 3E/3A in which quota is to be earmarked can be decided by zonal Railway concerned keeping in view the number of coaches of that class available in the train.)
- iii. Four berths in SLRD coach of Garib Rath Express trains.
- iv. Four seats in reserved Second Sitting (2S)/ air-conditioned Chair Car (CC) in those trains which have more than two coaches of these classes (except Vande Bharat Express trains).
- v. Four seats in Vande Bharat express trains.
(Specially designed Seat no. 40 in coach no. C1 and C7 in case of 8 car trains and seat no. 40 in coach no. C1 and C14 in case of 16 car trains for Divyangjans and one seat each adjacent to these specially designed seats for the escorts of Divyangjans)

Steps taken by the railways to avoid misusing this provision meant for Divyangjans

With a view to avoiding misuse of this provision, the facility of booking tickets under this quota online will be available only to those Divyangjans who have been issued a unique ID card by the Railways. For booking tickets across the counter, this facility shall be available on the production of a unique ID card issued by the railways or a copy of the concessional certificate in the prescribed proforma as per the existing Railway rules applicable to issuing concessional tickets. This facility will be available on all the counters of PRS where concessional ticket booking facilities are available.

Railway will ensure verification of unique ID cards issued to Divyangjans even in those trains where concessional fare facilities are not available. Whenever an eligible Divyangjans, as per Railway Rules, books a ticket against this quota in a train in which concession is not admissible to him/her, a pop-up message will be displayed informing that concessional fare facilities are not available in this train. Railways will ensure that whenever a Divyangjans book a ticket for the Vande Bharat expresses train, he/she should be booked on the specially designed seat no. 40 in coach no. C1/C7/C14, if available, and their escort will be booked on the seat adjacent to these specially designed seats earmarked for Divyangjans . In case both of the specially designed seats earmarked for Divyangjans in Vande Bharat express trains have been booked by Divyangjans but one or both of the seats earmarked for their escort are vacant, the vacant seat(s) will be allotted to a Divyangjans.

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