

No. RT-23018/04/2019-T
Government of India
Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
(Transport Section)
Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

29th July, 2019

To,

Managing Directors of all State Road Transport Undertakings

Sub: - Advisory to achieve targets of Accessible India Campaign.

Madam/Sir,

The Accessible India Campaign was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 3rd December, 2015 for creating universal accessibility for persons with Disabilities in all spheres including Built Environment, Transport, and Information & Communication Technology (ICT) ecosystem. The Campaign is based on the principles of the Social Model of Disability, which is that disability is caused by the way society is organized, and is not based on the person's limitations and impairments. It is physical, social, structural and attitudinal barriers that prevent people with Disabilities (Divyangjan) from participating equally in socio-cultural and economic activities. In this context, a target was set to achieve accessibility in all the bus stands, and in 25% of the buses, by 31st March, 2019.

2. A barrier-free environment facilitates Divyangjan in leading an independent and dignified way of life with full participation in all activities. The Accessible India Campaign's vision is to build an inclusive society in which equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) so that they can lead productive, safe and dignified lives.

3. The Rights of persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 mandates accessibility in all modes of transport as well as in public transport bus stops. The Section 41 of the Rights of persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 is reproduced as under for ready reference:

"41. (1) The appropriate Government shall take suitable measures to provide,— (a) facilities for persons with disabilities at bus stops, railway stations and airports conforming to the accessibility standards relating to parking spaces, toilets, ticketing counters and ticketing machines; (b) access to all modes of transport that conform the design standards, including retrofitting old modes of transport, wherever technically feasible and safe for persons with disabilities, economically viable and without entailing major structural changes in design; (c) accessible roads to address mobility necessary for persons with disabilities."

4. A meeting of the Task force, formed for speedy implementation of targets set for public transport under the Accessible India Campaign, was held on 24.7.2019 to discuss issues relating to retro-fitment in the on-road old buses.

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5. After detailed deliberations in the said meeting, it was decided that all the STUs may ensure implementation of the following as part of the Accessible India Campaign:

- i. All the bus stops and bus ports/ terminals should be made fully accessible.
- ii. All the buses operated by the STUs/STCs may be made disabled-friendly in a time bound manner.
- iii. Sufficient number of wheelchairs for differently abled passengers may be made available at all bus ports/ terminals.
- iv. Properly visible and marked space be made available at all bus stops, ports/ terminals.
- v. Proper signages be fixed at appropriate places indicating seats for differently abled.
- vi. Adequate handrails and provision of human assistance be made available to the differently abled passengers.
- vii. Audio-visual information systems for visually and hearing impaired passengers may also be made available in the buses.
- viii. Emergency button provision near the seat of the designated disabled seat may be made.
- ix. Where ramp is not possible, provision may be made for human assistance for the differently abled passengers to facilitate to board the buses.

6. This Ministry has been communicating with the states regularly to achieve the targets of Accessible India Campaign. For ready reference the earlier communications issued to the States are listed below:

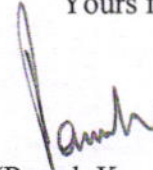
- i. Letter No RT-11017/07/2011-MVL dated 5th May, 2011(copy enclosed) regarding procedure for alteration in Motor Vehicles to facilitate the mobility of physically challenged person.
- ii. Letter RT-11021/40/2014-MVL dated 14-06-2016 (copy enclosed), Ministry detailing the procedure for guidelines for grant of driving licences & registration certificates to differently abled persons.
- iii. Advisory dated 26th June, 2018 issued by this Ministry (copy enclosed) for undertaking various steps to achieve the targets of Accessible India Campaign.
- iv. Advisory dated 21.11.2017 to States/ Uts (copy enclosed) regarding procedure for providing driving license for persons having monocular visions.

- v. Advisory dated 01.03.2019 to States/ Uts (copy enclosed) regarding Accessible India Campaign targets.

7. Accordingly, all the SRTUs are requested to ensure compliance of the points mentioned in para 5 above and intimate the status thereon to ED, ASRTU for compilation by 01.08.2019, indicating specifically the steps already taken and proposed to be taken in this regard, along with the time frame.

Encls. As above

Yours faithfully



(Paresh Kumar Goel)
Director (Transport)
Tele No. 01123351967

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
2. The Transport Secretaries of all State Government/ Union Territories
3. ED, ASRTU

No. RT-23018/04/2019-T
Government of India
Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
(Transport Section)
[Room No. 522, Transport Bhawan, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001]

Dated: 1st March, 2019

To,

The Transport Secretaries of all State Government/ Union Territories.

Sub: - Advisory to achieve targets of Accessible India Campaign.

Madam/Sir,

The Accessible India Campaign was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 3rd December, 2015 for creating universal accessibility for persons with Disabilities in Built Environment, Transport, and Information & Communication Technology (ICT) ecosystem. The Campaign is based on the principles of the Social Model of Disability, which proposes that disability is caused by the way society, is organized, and not based on the person's limitations and impairments. The physical, social, structural and attitudinal barriers prevent people with Disabilities (Divyangjan) from participating equally in the socio-cultural and economic activities.

2. A barrier-free environment facilitates Divyangjan in equal participation in all the activities and promotes an independent and dignified way of life. Accessible India Campaign has the vision to build an inclusive society in which equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) so that they can lead productive, safe and dignified lives.

3. Recently in the meeting of Committee of Secretaries held on 21st January 2019 it was decided that the M/o Road Transport and Highways may ensure that at least 25% of Government owned public transport is made fully accessible by March 2019. All bus stops and terminals may also be made accessible in coordination with States/ UTs. In this regard, Secretaries of MoRTH and DEPwD would also be conducting a joint video conferencing with MD of SRTUs and concerned officials of States/ UTs for follow up.

4. Accordingly, the State Govt./ UTs are requested to undertake the following steps to achieve the targets of Accessible India Campaign: -

- (i) 25% of Govt. owned public transport vehicles as well as all the private passenger vehicles should be made fully accessible by March 2019.
- (ii) Immediate actions to be taken to make all bus stops/ terminals/ports Accessible for the use of Persons with Disabilities.
- (iii) Explore feasibility and take immediate steps for retro-fitment of buses including innovative solutions such as providing wooden or metallic plank to provide easy access to wheel chaired passengers.
- (iv) Facilities for speedy Licensing and registration may be provided to differently abled persons.