

Need to step up safety measures to ensure security of passengers travelling in Khandesh Express - laid

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT (NANDURBAR): Train Number 19003 Khandesh Express which runs between Bandra Terminus and Bhusawal Junction has reported an increase in cases of theft in recent times. The train carries a large numbers of passengers on a daily basis and there have been complaints from them regarding repeated cases of theft and robbery by criminals who operate in the form of a gang and their modus operandi is to steal the belongings of passengers and get down at the nearest station by pulling the chain. These incidents are reported mostly in the Bhestan area which is also a halt station for Khandesh Express. I had taken up this issue with both the General Manager Western Railways and Railway Police, who had assured me of crackdown on these gangs and improving the safety and security of passengers. However, till now, no substantial action has been taken and there has been no decrease in the cases of theft and robbery which has created an atmosphere of fear and chaos amongst the passengers travelling on this train. I request the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to kindly look into the increasing cases of theft on Khandesh Express and also take strict actions against them and provide security and safety measures to ensure hassle free and safe travel.