

Surprise Checking and Passengers Travelling without Tickets

9338. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of surprise checking have been conducted at various places in India by Railway Ministers, Railway officials and others during January, 1981 to 31st March, 1981 regarding the passengers travelling without tickets; etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons found guilty and how much amount had been recovered and how many persons were sent to jails;

(d) how many of them belonged to Railway staff and other officials and prominent personalities etc. who were found travelling on illegal tickets and without tickets etc; and

(e) the steps taken to stop such illegal travelling and without tickets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (c) Yes. During the period from 1st January, 1981 to 31st March, 1981, as many as 47,663 special checks were conducted against ticketless/irregular travel. During these checks, 6.47 lakh persons were detected travelling without tickets or with improper tickets and a sum of Rs. 109.84 lakhs was realised as railway dues. 73,650 persons were prosecuted out of whom 40,305 were sent to jail. Judicial fine amounting to Rs. 9.61 lakhs was also realised.

(d) Separate statistics of ticketless travel by railway employees, other officials and prominent personalities, are not maintained.

(e) The following steps have been taken to check ticketless travel on the Indian Railways:—

1. Special massive checks against ticketless travel are conducted by mobilising a large force of ticket checking staff, Railway Protection Force, Government Railway Police and local police personnel under the supervision of senior railway officers.

2. Joint Brives against ticketless travel are undertaken in co-ordination with the state government.

3. Incognito checks by travelling ticket examiners in plain clothes are conducted.

4. Frequent concentrated surprise checks, especially by moving the checking parties accompanied by Railway Protection Force/Police and Railway Magistrates by road transport, are conducted.

5. Replacement checks are conducted by the headquarters and divisional ticket checking squads by intercepting the trains in mid-sections.

6. The ticket checking staff of one railway system are deployed for ticket checking on another system.

7. Educative propaganda against ticketless travel is carried out among the travelling public particularly among the student community.