

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:473  
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2000  
PUNCTUALITY AND SAFETY IN RAILWAYS  
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Railways are considering to take some important measures with the help of the State Government to improve the punctuality and safety in Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways have also identified the sensitive railway zones which are more prone to disruptions.
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the State Government have agreed to help and assist the Railways in implementing the schemes proposed for the purpose; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) to (f): Indian Railways are taking the following steps to improve punctuality and safety with the help of State Governments:

1. Coordination meetings with State Governments at Divisional and Zonal Head Quarter levels.
2. Joint checks with State police to tackle the menace of miscreant activity including unauthorized alarm chain pulling, hose pipe disconnection and Clappet Valve Operation.
3. Close coordination with law and order machinery during threats of agitations/bundhs/bomb blasts in order to minimise disruption to punctual and safe running of trains.
4. Running pilot specials in coordination with State police in areas vulnerable to sabotage in some areas in some States.
5. Proper Road Signs have been provided on the approaches to level crossings so that the road vehicle drivers are made aware of the existence of a level crossing in coordination with State Government.
6. Since accidents at unmanned level crossings take place due to negligence of road users, the State Government are asked to help by exercising strict checks while issuing driving licenses, specially to drivers of trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles. All Chief Secretaries have been requested to co-operate in educating the road users.
7. Joint Ambush Checks with civil authorities to nab errant road vehicle drivers under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Railways Act, 1989.
8. A meeting of the Chief Secretaries and the Directors General of Police from all the States was convened to bring about coordination between Railways and State Governments on matters relating to security. A High-Level Committee on Security on Railways consisting of Railways and State Government officials has been set up to suggest ways and means to provided better security to Railway passengers and Railway system.

The railways and State Governments coordinate to identify areas prone for disruptions. Railways take preventive and precautionary measures alongwith State Government in these areas in order to minimise the disruption to punctual an safe running of trains.