

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:552

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006

PURCHASE OF BOMB DETECTION INSTRUMENTS

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there was any plan to purchase hi-tech bomb detection instruments for conducting the search and frisking operations at Railway stations and in trains as reported in 'The Hindustan Times' dated July 13, 2006.

(b) If so, whether this plan is pending with the Railways for clearance;

(c) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to conducted search and frisking operations in trains and at Railway stations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) & (c) All the important stations over Zonal Railways are to be covered under Bomb Detection Plan. Instructions have been issued recently to All Railways to procure such equipment such as Bomb detection equipment and Close Circuit Television (CCTVs) Cameras for installation on important stations. Many of the Railways already have Hand-held metal detectors, Door Frame Metal Detectors and Dog Squads.

(d) Two additional Companies of Railway Protection Special Force have been deployed in Mumbai (Central & Western Railway) after the above blasts. Besides additional force has been mobilized to Mumbai from adjoining divisions in Western & Central Railway. Close Circuit Television

(CCTVs) at 11 Railway stations in Mumbai have been installed to keep surveillance in Railway premises. In addition 22 Railway Protection Force

(RPF) Sniffer dogs are at present deployed to conduct anti-sabotage checking in Mumbai. Intensive publicity and public awareness campaign alerting and educating all passengers to remain vigilant against any unidentified / unclaimed suspicious objects lying inside coaches & platforms and to report to Government Railway Police (GRP)/ RPF /Railway officials immediately in case of detection by them. RPF staff have also been provided with Hand Held Metal Detectors to conduct checking at Railway stations. Close liaison with GRP & State Police is being maintained to provide effective security to passengers and passenger area. The proposal to provide additional manpower, modern security devices/gadgets, and concurrent additional legal powers etc. to RPF are under consideration at different levels. Steps are also being taken to upgrade RPF Training centres with a view to improve quality of training. A comprehensive intelligence-orientation programme for the RPF is already under-way.