

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:194  
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012  
CURBS ON SALE OF LOW-COST SEDATIVES  
Kalmadi Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether the Railway Protection Force (RPF) has sought curbs on sale of low-cost sedatives at medical stores due to spurt in cases of drugging in trains reported during the last six months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the efforts made/proposed to be made by RPF to combat drug gangs indicating the vulnerable trains and stations identified and awareness campaigns initiated;
- (d) whether any anti-drug squad within RPF has been proposed to be created to combat drugging in trains; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with other steps taken by the Railways to check such incidence in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS ( SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 194 BY SHRI SURESH KALMADI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.11.2012 REGARDING CURBS ON SALE OF LOW-COST SEDATIVES.

(a) and (b): No, Madam. Curbs on sale of low-cost sedatives at medical stores was not sought during the last six months. However, Director General/ Railway Protection Force had requested Drug Controller General of India, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, New Delhi on 30.11.2011 to initiate steps to strictly restrict sale of sedative drugs so as to prevent them from falling in the hands of undesirable elements for committing crime. He was also requested to direct the druggists/chemists to sell the sedative drugs only on production of an authorised prescription besides maintaining proper record of the doctors who prescribed the drugs and the details of the purchasers. In response, Drug Controller General of India has directed the State Drug Controllers and Zonal and Sub-Zonal Offices to take necessary action in the matter.

(c) to (e): Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police of the State concerned. As such the cases of crime on Railways including drugging are reported to, registered and investigated by the Govt. Railway Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of Government Railway Police (GRP) by deploying escorts in important trains in affected areas and for access control duties at major and important Railway stations.

The following steps are being taken by Railways to stop the incidents of drugging in Railways:-

# Passenger awareness programmes are launched by way of regular announcements through Public Address System, distribution of pamphlets, pasting of posters etc. at identified/vulnerable and major Railway stations / trains to sensitize the public about the modus operandi of drugging criminals.

# Anti-drugging teams of Railway Protection Force are formed at affected stations to keep surveillance on the suspects.

# The incidents of drugging are being monitored at various levels to detect the offenders.

# Close coordination with Government Railway Police is being maintained.