

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4305

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014

GUIDELINES FOR SAFETY OF PASSENGERS

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Jeyadurai Shri S. R.;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have issued guidelines to Railway Protection Force (RPF) regarding security and safety of passengers and their belongings and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the incidents of attacks on critical infrastructure of railways by various extremist groups and other outfits have increased during each of the last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof, zone-wise and the corrective steps taken by the Railways in this regard.

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Railways to equip RPF with sophisticated security equipment and the details of the funds earmarked and spent for modernization of RPF during the last three years and current year and zone wise; and

(d) the steps taken to meet the shortage of manpower in RPF?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4305 BY SHRI SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE, SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB AND SHRI S.R.JEYADURAI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.02.2014 REGARDING GUIDELINES FOR SAFETY OF PASSENGERS.

(a) As per the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957 (as amended from time to time) Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been entrusted with the responsibility of protection and security of railway property, passenger area and passengers and matters connected therewith. Accordingly, necessary measures are initiated by the RPF, to supplement efforts of Government Railway Police (GRP) of respective States, for security of passengers and their belongings. In pursuance of the objectives of the RPF Act, guidelines are also issued to zonal railways from time to time.

(b) No, Madam. Prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of law & order over railways being the statutory responsibility of States, co-ordination is being maintained with respective States at zonal, divisional and field level to ensure security of railway infrastructure.

(c) Security has been identified by Railways as one of the priority areas for strengthening and upgradation. Based on the report of a Norms Committee, norms and scales of 30 modern security related equipment have been finalized for RPF. Accordingly, zonal railways have procured these items for strengthening security of railways. Besides above, installation of an integrated security system comprising of CCTV cameras, baggage scanners, DFMDs, HHMDs, Bomb Detection equipment etc., has also been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive stations.

Works relating to creation of assets and procurement of equipment for strengthening of security and modernization of RPF security are also sanctioned under works programme and Machinery and Plant programme of Railways each year. These works have a specific gestation period due to processes involved like tendering, procurement schedule etc. Efforts are, however, made to ensure timely completion of the works and make optimum utilization of available funds.

(d) Steps initiated for strengthening of man power in RPF include creation 6913 additional posts, recruitment of 511 Sub-Inspectors, recruitment drive for filling up of 17087 other non gazetted posts etc.