

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Regarding introduction of special reserved sleeper class trains only for women

SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA (AMALAPURAM): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, when a woman travels, all that she wants is safe travel whether it is late at night or early in the morning. However, despite many efforts, the safety of women in public transport, especially on trains, has not been accomplished. They face incidents of eve-teasing or fear of sexual harassment and thus, have to avoid travelling long distances unaccompanied.

This issue of safety consequently prevents their access to public transport and to travel freely as their male counterparts. It affects the mobility choices of women. They may adopt different coping strategies, such as avoiding travel at certain times, travelling in groups, or avoiding travel altogether. These barriers faced by women due to lack of safety can affect their access to opportunities and impact their autonomy.

Thus, along with the current measures and acts, having a women-only train will help us in achieving our goal of increasing the safety and security of women passengers and removing the barriers to women and girls' safe access to public transport.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Railways to introduce a special sleeper class train with all compartments reserved for women passengers as it would ensure a safe travel experience for women from all backgrounds.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shrimati Vanga Geetha Viswanath – Not present.

Shrimati Pratima Mondal.