

Dacoities at railway stations in U.P. Bihar and West Bengal

393. SHRI RAMANAND TIWARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the railway stations in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal where the incidents of dacoities, snatching, pick-pocketing and swindling have increased during the last six months; and

(b) the measures taken by the Government to check such incidents and inculcate feeling of security and safety in passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Dog squads to track down criminal near Railway Yards

394. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether dog squads are deployed to track down criminals in and around important railway yards; and

(b) the other steps taken by the Railways to check the theft of railway property and goods in transit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes. Dog squads are being deployed to track down criminals in and around important Railway yards.

(b) Various steps taken to check the thefts are—

(i) Security in major yards, goods-sheds and parcel offices have been tightened;

(ii) Armed pickets and patrols are posted at black spots and vulnerable sections;

(iii) Efforts are made to move vulnerable commodities in block loads, escorted by the Railway Protection Force;

(iv) Efforts to identify the receivers of stolen railway property, have been intensified and raids are frequently organised for the recovery of such stolen property;

(v) Constant efforts are made to book known railway criminals under different provisions of the law;

(vi) Close liaison is being maintained with the State Police authorities to curb the activities of criminals operating on the railways;

(vii) Investigation of all crimes coming to notice are pursued vigorously;

(viii) The system of localisation of crime has been reoriented.

Seismic survey in Mahanadi Delta

395. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:

SHRI PADMA CHARAN SAMANTASINHERA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seismic survey has been completed by the Oil India Limited to drill in the Mahanadi delta and adjoining areas off the sea coast of Orissa;

(b) whether the exploration plan has been drawn;

(c) whether drilling work has commenced; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (d). Oil India Limited have drawn up a scheme for exploration work in Mahanadi delta which is under consideration. After the scheme is approved, seismic survey of the area would be undertaken and a decision regarding drilling shall be taken only after the data obtained from seismic survey is evaluated.