

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 394
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.2024**

LACK OF CLEANLINESS OF BEDDING IN TRAINS

394. SHRI KULDEEP INDORA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is lack of cleanliness of bedding provided by the railways to its passengers;**
- (b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to ensure passenger comfort and safety by providing clean bedding;**
- (c) whether woollen blankets are washed only once a month while the passengers are paying for bedding that meets the basic hygiene standards; and**
- (d) if so, the steps being taken to replace heavy woollen blankets with the lighter and easy to maintain alternatives?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

(a) to (d) Indian Railways make every endeavour to provide clean, hygienic, well ironed good quality linen/bedrolls to all passengers travelling in air conditioned (AC) sleeper classes by using latest state-of-the-art technology for good passenger experience. Linen provided to the passengers during train journey is washed in mechanised laundries/ washing facilities after every single use. Some of the measures taken by Indian Railways to ensure passenger comfort and safety by providing clean bedrolls are enumerated below:-

- **Procurement of new linen sets is carried out with improved BIS specifications that have tighter tolerances to ensure better quality.**
- **Mechanized laundries have been set up to ensure supply of clean and hygienic linen sets.**
- **Standard machines and reputed specified chemicals are used for washing of linen items.**
- **Monitoring of linen washing activities in the laundry premises is done by CCTVs and Railway staff. Regular checks by officers are also conducted ensuring hygienic linen.**
- **Whito-meters are used to check the quality of washed linen items.**
- **Codal life of linen items has been reduced from the previously prescribed duration to allow for quicker induction of fresh linen items.**
- **War-rooms have been established at zonal Head-quarters and divisional levels to monitor/prompt action on complaints lodged on Rail madad portal including complaints on linen/bedroll.**
- **Eco-friendly packaging of bedrolls.**
- **Improved logistics for storing, transportation, loading and unloading of linen/bedrolls at station and on trains.**
- **Reservation against cancellation (RAC) passengers are also provided with complete linen set at par with other bone-fide passengers travelling in the coach.**

Blankets provided to passengers during train journey are washed at least once in a month. An additional bed sheet is also provided in bedroll kit to the passengers for using it as a cover of blankets provided.

The blankets used in Indian Railways, as per current specifications, are lighter, easy to wash and provide good insulation to passengers for overall comfortable journey experience.