

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2874
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001
SANITATION AND HYGIENIC CONDITION IN TRAINS
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

:

- (a) whether the TTE is also assigned the duty to check the sanitation/hygienic condition in compartments;
- (b) if so, the action the Government takes against TTEs and TS` for not maintaining hygienic condition in the trains;
- (c) the sanitation and hygienic standards/norms fixed for the trains;
- (d) whether this standards are being maintained by the railways;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) & (b): The Travelling Ticket Examiners check the sanitary/hygienic conditions only in trains on run and bring the same to the notice of the concerned maintenance staff. The main responsibility of checking the sanitary conditions on trains is, however, of the Coaching Depots. Travelling Ticket Examiners and Train Superintendents are not directly responsible for maintaining hygienic conditions.

(c): The norms for sanitation and cleanliness of coaches are as under:-

(i) Complete washing and cleaning of all trains at the end of each trip except selected short distance trains which return from one end with dry sweeping and toilet cleaning.

(ii) Monthly intensive cleaning and pest control treatment of each coach.

(iii) Enroute cleaning of toilets at nominated stations by using High Pressure Jet cleaning machines.

(d): These norms are fulfilled and the quality of attention is closely supervised.

(e) & (f): The main constraints in achieving very high level of sanitary condition on trains are over-crowding, intensive use of coaches and inadequate sense of public hygiene in both users and sanitation personnel. Railways are constantly striving to achieve better levels of cleanliness despite these constraints through introduction of high pressure jet cleaning machines, use of better cleaning agents and implements, use of specialised agencies for work like pest control, etc. Drives are also launched from time to time to improve the public hygiene consciousness of passengers and railway personnel.