

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1349

ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004

CRIMES IN TRAINS

Budholiya Shri Rajnarayan;Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh;Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra;Gandhi Shri Pradeep;Pradhan Shri Dharmendra;Singh Shri Prabhunath;Tirath Smt. Krishna;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore;Verma Smt. Usha

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is spurt in incidents of looting, murder, dacoity and other crimes in trains, particularly in Bihar and Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the facts and details of each case since January, 2004, till date and the action taken in respect of each of these cases;
- (c) the role of GRP and RPF in dealing with crimes in trains and the steps taken to strengthen RPF to deal with such crimes;
- (d) whether the Ministry share expenditure incurred by various States for providing security in trains;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government propose to fix the accountability on States to spend funds given to them on providing security in trains; and
- (g) other measures taken by the Government to provide security to passengers in trains?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (b): The maintenance of law & order and the security of passengers and their belongings in the running trains and railway premises is the constitutional responsibility

of the State Government concerned. The cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police (GRP). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c): Prevention and detection of crime is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments, which they execute through their Government Railway Police wing. As such, Ministry of Railways have to depend on State Governments for control of crime over Railways. Railway Protection Force under the Ministry of Railways is responsible only for protection of railway property and property consigned to the Railways for transportation. Although recent amendments in the Railways Act 1989 and the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957 have given the additional responsibility of providing protection against minor offences to railway passengers and passenger areas to RPF, the investigation and prosecution of crime under the Indian Penal Code as well as sabotage related cases under the Railways Act continue to be with the State Police. The amendments came in to force with effect from 1st July, 2004. RPF is deploying additional strength and temporarily withdrawing staff from other duty points, for additional protection to passengers in train and to passenger areas for minor offences. This will relieve the burden of the State Governments to a large extent so that they can now focus on the serious crimes affecting the passengers.

(d): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways shares expenditure on Government Railway Police wing deployed by the State Governments on the Railway system.

(e): 50% of all the expenditure on the Officers and other ranks of the Government Railway Police deployed by the each State/Union Territories is being borne by the Ministry of Railways.

(f): There is no such proposal. However, State Governments are persuaded by letters and periodic meetings at all levels to pay more attention to the security of Railway passengers and safety of Railway system.

(g): Though the responsibility to curb crime on Railways lies with the State Governments, the Railways have taken the following steps to supplement the efforts of the State Government:

1. Anti-social elements are being removed from Railway premises and trains by RPF.
2. Coach Attendants/TTEs are keeping proper watch on the passengers entering/detraining from the coaches and the coaches are properly checked and locked during their run, especially in night hours.
3. First Information Report forms are made available with the Train Guards/Stations Masters/RPF to facilitate the travelling public to

lodge their reports immediately.

4. Sharing of Special Intelligence and Crime Intelligence between RPF and GRP is being done at all levels.

5. Announcement through Public Address system and Close Circuit Television at important Railway Stations to alert the travelling passengers.

6. Police and Local Police are being conducted to analyze the crime position on Railways with a view to taking suitable preventive measures.

7. To supplement the efforts of the Government Railway Police and the State Government in maintaining Law & Order and for their better focus on serious crimes, the responsibility for arrest and prosecute minor offences under the Railways Act (which affect the normal passengers and the train operations) have been vested with the Railway Protection Force by amending the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957 and the Railways Act, 1989. The amended Acts have been brought in force from 1st July, 2004.