

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1378

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005

ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF SEATS BY COOLIES

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**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the illegal occupation of seats in unreserved coaches by coolies and charging money from passengers for providing seats to them;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received complaints in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details of complaints received during the last one year, till date;
- (d) the action taken by the Government against coolies found guilty; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to stop such illegal practice?

**Answer**

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

- (a) to (d): Cases of unauthorised occupation of seats by coolies in unreserved coaches for charging money from passengers do come to notice from time to time and strict action is taken by the concerned zonal railways against such persons when apprehended. However, no separate statistics is maintained of such cases on the railways.
- (e): Following steps have been taken by the railways to stop such illegal activities by coolies:-
  - (i) Regular checks by Commercial and Vigilance departments in association with Police;
  - (ii) Generally passenger train rakes are brought from the maintenance siding to the platform with unreserved coaches in locked condition at train originating stations.