

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2979

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006

SMUGGLING IN GOODS TRAINS

Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are aware of the recent spurt in the smuggling of goods and increasing number of intruders through goods trains plying between India and Bangladesh as reported in the Rashtriya Sahara dated January 12, 2006:
- (b) if so, whether smuggled goods have been seized from goods trains plying between India and Bangladesh;
- (c) if so, the value of the goods seized through the goods trains plying between India and Bangladesh during the last year and the current year;
- (d) the number of Bangladeshi intruders arrested through these goods trains; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Railways to check such incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA)

(a) to (c): No spurt in smuggling of goods and increasing infiltration through goods train has been reported over Railways recently. However, during the year 2005, smuggled goods worth Rs.6,87,610/- and in 2006 (upto 31.1.2006) worth Rs.3,20,000/- have been seized at Gede Railway Station over Eastern Railway smuggled from Darshna Railway Station of Bangladesh.

(d) On 28.1.2006, 04 Bangladeshi intruders were caught in an empty wagon during joint checking by Border Security Force (BSF), Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP) while the goods wagon had entered from Darshana Railway station (Bangladesh). The intruders were booked under law by Local Police/ West Bengal.

(e): RPF is extending full cooperation to all BSF, Police and Customs Authorities. Armed patrolling has been intensified in the Gede Railway Station area (India). Local Police, GRP, Customs and BSF have been apprised of the situation and the above agencies are conducting raids and searches in the trains and bordering stations. High-level co-ordination meetings are held from time to time to solve the problem and for better coordination among the Government agencies.