

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 106
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2024

SAFETY OF FEMALE PASSENGERS

106 SHRI B. PARTHASARADHI REDDY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the women passengers face lot of safety issues in the trains;
- (b) steps taken by the Government to ensure that women are safe and protected while travelling by trains; and
- (c) details of the number of incidents of sexual offences reported by women while travelling by trains during the last three years, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 106 BY SHRI B. PARTHASARADHI REDDY ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 02.02.2024 REGARDING SAFETY OF FEMALE PASSENGERS

(a) to (c): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, therefore, State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and maintenance of law and order on Railways through their law enforcement agencies viz. Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP/District Police to provide better protection and security to railway property, passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith.

The following steps are being taken by the Railways in coordination with GRP for safety and security of women passengers in trains and at stations:-

1. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
2. For immediate assistance passengers can make complaint on Rail Madad Portal directly or through Helpline Number 139 [integrated with Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) No.112].
3. Railways are in regular touch with passengers through various social media platforms like twitter, facebook, koo etc. to enhance security of passengers and to address their security concern.
4. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras provided in a number of coaches and at Railway Stations for enhanced security of passengers.
5. All newly manufactured Electrical Multiple Unit(EMUs), air-conditioned EMU rakes, Mainline Electrical Multiple Units (MEMUs) and Air Conditioned rakes of Kolkata Metro have been provided with CCTV Surveillance Cameras.
6. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address System to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.
7. Awareness campaigns are conducted in railway premises and in train through posters, banners, distribution of leaflets, videos on Railway Display Network (RDN) etc. on regular basis to educate passengers for taking necessary precautionary measures during their journey.

8. Under 'Meri Saheli' initiative, focused attention has been provided for safety and security of lady passengers travelling alone by long distance trains for their entire journey i.e. from originating station to destination station.
9. Zonal railways have been instructed for deployment of proper combined strength of male & female RPF/RPSF personnel in train escort parties, to the extent possible.
10. Drives are conducted against entry of male passengers into the compartments reserved for ladies.
11. A reservation quota of six berths in sleeper class in long distance Mail/Express trains and a reservation quota of six berths in 3AC class of Garib Rath Rajdhani/Duronto/fully air-conditioned Express trains for female passengers irrespective of their age travelling alone or in a group of female passengers.
12. A combined reservation quota of six to seven lower berths per coach in Sleeper class, four to five lower berths per coach each in Air Conditioned 3 tier (3AC) and three to four lower berths per coach in Air Conditioned 2 tier (2AC) classes (depending on the number of coaches of that class in the train) has been earmarked for senior citizens, female passengers 45 years of age and above and pregnant women.
13. Second class accommodation for women in the second Class-cum-Luggage-cum Guard's Coach (SLR) in most of the long distance Mail/Express trains.
14. Exclusive unreserved coaches/compartments for female passengers in EMU (Electrical Multiple Unit)/DMU (Diesel Multiple Unit)/MMTS(Multi Modal Transport System) trains & local passenger trains depending upon demand pattern as well as availability of accommodation.
15. Running of ladies special EMU/MEMU/MMTS services on the suburban sections of Mumbai, Kolkata, Secunderabad and Chennai as well as on the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) sections.
16. State Level Security Committee of Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/Commissioner of States/Union Territories for regular monitoring and review of security arrangements of the Railways.

The State-wise number of incidents reported for sexual offences against women in Railway are published by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). The number of cases of sexual offence against women reported over Indian Railways during the last 3 years i.e. 2020, 2021 and 2022 are available in the National Crime Records Bureau website (<https://ncrb.gov.in/crime-in-india.html>).