

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 133
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2024

CRIMES IN RAILWAY STATION PREMISES

133 SMT. MAHUA MAJI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of crimes occurring in railway station premises has risen by 105 per cent in 2023 as compared to 2021;
- (b) if so, the details of actions initiated by Government to curb the rise in crimes at railway stations across the country;
- (c) whether the railway stations face shortage in deployment of Railway Protection Force (RPF) which is a leading cause in rise in crimes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the measures initiated to address the shortage in deployment of RPF staff in railway stations and their premises?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 133 BY SMT. MAHUA MAJI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 02.02.2024 REGARDING CRIMES IN RAILWAY STATION PREMISES

(a) & (b): '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 number of incidents reported of crime in Railways are published by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Based on the data published by NCRB available upto 2022, there is considerable decrease in the cases of crime in Railways during the year 2022 as compared to 2019. Data of crime in the years 2020 and 2021 are not considered for comparison as the passenger train operation was curtailed due to the onset of Covid – 19. Figure for the year 2023 have not been published by NCRB.

The following steps are being taken by the Railways in coordination with GRP/Local Police for safety and security of passengers in trains and at railway 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. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address System to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.
5. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras provided in a number coaches in trains and at railway stations for enhanced security of passengers.

6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.

(c) & (d): The deployment of RPF personnel at railway stations is decided based on the vulnerability of the concerned station, location of the area, threat perception of the hinterland, analysis of past crime of data among others. Therefore, the deployment is dynamic and keeps changing from time to time.

Further, arising of vacancies is an ongoing process in Security Department (Railway Protection Force)/Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF) due to retirements, promotions, deaths, resignations, etc. and the same are filled up through open recruitments and departmental promotions as per the existing rules.
