

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 608**  
**ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024**

**IMPROVING HYGIENE STANDARDS IN RAILWAY COACHES**

608. SHRI JOSE K. MANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is cognizant of the infrequent washing of blankets in AC coaches;
- (b) if so, the measures being taken to improve the hygiene standards;
- (c) whether Government plans to implement a hygiene policy requiring frequent checks in all hygienic parameters; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof; if not the reasons therefor ?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) For maintaining hygiene, an additional bed sheet is provided in bed roll kit to the passengers travelling in Airconditioned class (AC) for using it as a cover to blanket. Bedsheet, towel, pillow cover and face towel provided to the passengers during train journey are washed in mechanised laundries/ washing facilities after every single use and blankets are washed at least once in a month as per extant policy. Some of the measures taken by Indian Railways to improve the hygiene standard of bedrolls are enumerated below:-

- Procurement of new linen sets with improved specifications to ensure better quality.
- Mechanized laundries have been set up to ensure supply of clean and hygienic linen sets.
- Regular monitoring of linen washing activities is done in the laundry premises.

- Whito-meters are used to check the quality of washed linen items.
- Eco-friendly packaging of bed rolls.
- Improved logistics for storing, transportation, loading and unloading of linen/bedrolls at station and on trains.

Cleaning of trains coaches including toilets is done at both ends including mechanized cleaning. On Board Housekeeping Service (OBHS) has been provided in identified long distance trains for cleaning of coach toilets, doorways, aisles and passenger compartments during the run of the trains and limited mechanized cleaning of identified trains including toilets is ensured under Clean Train Stations (CTS) scheme during their scheduled stoppages enroute at nominated stations.

Regular checks/surprise checks on coach cleanliness are conducted at various levels and punitive/corrective actions are taken.

\*\*\*\*\*