

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 72
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2026

OVERLAPPING FUNCTIONS OF RPF AND GRP IN INDIAN RAILWAYS

*72 SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are two forces that patrol the Indian railways—the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP);
- (b) whether it is also a fact that concerns pertaining to overlapping of functions due to unclear demarcation of function have regularly surfaced;
- (c) whether it is further a fact that the RPF does not have the authority under Indian Penal code (IPC) and has to report these to the GRP concerned; and
- (d) whether the Ministry could provide a clear demarcation of the functions of the two entities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING 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 STARRED QUESTION NO.72 BY SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 24.07.2026 REGARDING OVERLAPPING FUNCTIONS OF RPF AND GRP IN INDIAN RAILWAYS

(a) to (d) Police and Public Order are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, as such, State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and maintaining law and order etc. on Railways through their law enforcement agencies viz. Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. 50% of salary charges of Government Railway Police (GRP) is borne by Railways.

The role and responsibilities of Government Railway Police (GRP), District Police and Railway Protection Force (RPF) are clearly defined.

All cases of crime under Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) are registered and investigated by Government Railway Police (GRP) or District Police as per their jurisdiction demarcated by respective state/UT.

Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police to provide better protection and security of passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith and accordingly cases covered under Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) are reported to Government Railway Police (GRP) or District Police for taking further legal action.

RPF is not empowered to register cases under the provision of Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). However, RPF is empowered to register cases under the provision of Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1966 and Rlys. Act 1989.
