GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1158 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018

CRIMES IN TRAINS

1158. SHRI ANOOP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the emergency complaints mechanism established for reporting crimes inside railway compartments especially when the train is passing through regions with no network connectivity;
- (b) the mandate for railway police personnels on every train and whether it has been revised in the past few years and if so, details thereof; and
- (c) the measures the Government is taking to strengthen security of passenger trains?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a): To provide round the clock security related assistance to passengers, including reporting of any crime in trains, All India Security Helpline 182 has been operationalised through Divisional Security Control Rooms of Railway Protection Force (RPF) across Indian Railways. Security Helpline is presently functioning on manual mode. Upgradation of Security Helpline 182 has been undertaken at an approved cost of ₹5.59 crore. Integration of Security Helpline 182 with an APP has been further envisaged to make it more passenger friendly and effective. Functioning of Security Helpline 182 is being reviewed at regular interval of time to ensure smooth functioning of the Helpline System.

In case of problems in network connectivity, on duty staff of RPF/Government Railway Police (GRP), Commercial Department of Railways and Guards can also be approached by passengers for seeking assistance or getting their First Information Report (FIR) registered at the next GRP police station.

(b): Prevention and detection of crime, registration of FIRs, their investigation and maintenance of law & order in railway station premises as well as in running trains are the statutory responsibility of State Governments, which they discharge through the GRP. RPF supplements the efforts of the GRPs of respective States by deploying its staff for strengthening of security over railways.

Prior to the year 2003, role and responsibility of RPF was restricted to protection and security of railway property only. In the year 2003, the Railways Act, 1989 and the RPF Act, 1957 were amended and charter of duties and responsibilities of RPF was extended to cover protection and security of passenger area, passengers and matters connected therewith, in addition to railway property. However, commensurate legal powers to deal with passenger related offences under the IPC are not available with RPF and powers of registration of cases and their investigation still rests exclusively with GRPs of respective States.

(c): Railways, through the Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing efforts of GRPs of respective States to strengthen security across Indian Railways. Measures initiated by Railways to strengthen security include escorting of 2500 trains by RPF (on an average daily), in addition to escorting of 2200 trains by GRP, access control at important stations, operationalisation and upgradation of Security Help Line number

182, surveillance through CCTV cameras, prosecution of offenders under relevant provisions of the Railways Act, 1989, security of women passengers, rescue of children, etc. Regular coordination is being maintained with the State Police/GRP authorities at all levels. In addition, State Level Security Committee for Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories (UTs) under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/ Commissioner of States/ Union Territories for regular monitoring and review of security arrangements for the Railways.
