

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3566
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.01.2019**

RAILWAY SECURITY

†3566. SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a lot is yet to be done by the Government in Railway security setup despite allocating huge funds for the same in the past;

(b) if so, whether the Government has allocated huge amount to Railways for security of railway passengers in view of various rail accidents reported during the last one year and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the condition of tracks, security and monitoring are the main reasons of rail accidents;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to consider state-of-the-art and advance technology for monitoring inspection and maintenance of railway tracks and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by when new technology in Railways is likely to be made available and implemented;

(f) whether other aspects of passenger security is likely to be covered under current allocation of railway security ; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) and (b): Prevention and detection of crime related to passengers, registration of such cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in railway premises as well as on running trains are

the statutory responsibility of the State Governments. For this purpose, a separate wing of State Police in the name of Government Railway Police (GRP) functions in respective States. At the same time, security of tracks, and bridges is the responsibility of District Police. Ministry of Railways supplement efforts of States in providing security over railways through the Railway Protection Force (RPF). Thus, a three tier security system of RPF, GRP and District Police is prevailing over Indian Railways.

Security has been identified as one of the priority areas by Railways for strengthening and upgradation. Besides sharing 50% cost on GRPs with respective States, need-based allocation of fund is made under Works Programme (WP) and Machinery and Plant Programmes (M&P) of each year for security related works over Indian Railways.

To enhance security of passengers, fund to the tune of ₹59 crore has been allotted during financial year 2018-19 and an advance of ₹50 crore has been given to RailTel Corporation of India Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking of Ministry of Railways for provision of Video Surveillance cameras. In addition token money has been allotted for installing Video Surveillance cameras at 8244 railway stations (including halt station) and in 58276 passenger coaches of trains.

(c) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways. For security of tracks and bridges, necessary coordination is being made with District Police authorities. 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/ UTs for regular monitoring and review of security arrangement for the Railways.

However, in spite of efforts, there are several factors which include negligent crossing of railway track at level crossings by road users, trespassing, and unauthorised infringement to railway tracks, sabotage or miscreant activity, natural calamities, failure of assets like rail fracture/ weld failure etc. which lead to rail accidents.

(d) and (e) : Presently, Indian Railways (IR) has manual and mechanized mode of inspection and maintenance of Railway track. All efforts are being made to reduce manual method of inspection and maintenance of railway track. In order to improve inspection and maintenance of railway track, Indian Railway has decided to adopted International practice and advanced technology on IR system by conducting proper study and trials in the field. In this regard, some of the technology which are currently studied and trials conducted by Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO) are as under –

(i) Ground Penetration Radar (GPR) for monitoring health of track ballast bed and to prioritize deep screening of track.

(ii) Axle Box Mounted Accelerometers on pilot basis in 40 rakes of fastest train on selected high density trunk routes to monitor track requiring urgent attention and generate alerts on daily basis.

(iii) High Speed Cameras for monitoring Track Components Condition through machine vision.

(iv) Vehicular Ultrasonic Flaw Detection (USFD) Cars to cover entire Indian Railways network for monitoring and identifying propagation of rail/ weld defects for improving safety of track.

(v) Integrated Track Recording Cars with facility of Component Monitoring and Clearance Measurement System, to cover entire Indian Railway Network.

(vi) Thick web Switches and Weldable CMS Crossings have been introduced and are being procured. This will help in better Track maintenance and enhanced track life.

(vii) Analogue USFD testing machines have been replaced by digital USFD testing machines, transferring data and testing results to online application Track Management System (TMS) and PCs. New specifications for USFD testing machines have been issued having features for location tagging, time stamping of recording and improved scan (B-scan) capability.

(viii) By using modern and well equipped track machines for maintenance.

(f) and (g): In an effort to improve the safety performance over Indian Railways (IR), Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) type coaches, which are of a superior design having better safety features like anti-climbing, etc. are being proliferated in Mainline trains. It has also been decided that only LHB coaches would be manufactured by Production Units of IR from April 2018 onwards.

Other aspects of passenger security which are being covered include upgradation of All India Security Helpline 182, operationalisation of single Security App and its integration with Security Helpline, installation of Close Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance to cover more stations and trains, provision of modern security related equipment, etc.
