

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1135
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2023**

STONE PELTING INCIDENTS

†1135. SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that stone pelting incidents are happening repeatedly on high speed Vande Bharat trains since a very long time;**
- (b) if so, the approximate damage caused to trains due to such incidents along with the details thereof;**
- (c) whether police has succeeded in arresting the culprits in these cases and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether passengers have also suffered loss of life and property in these incidents and if so, the details thereof?**

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. 1135 BY SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.07.2023 REGARDING STONE PELTING INCIDENTS

(a) to (d): '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.

Some incidents of stone pelting incidents have been reported on Vande Bharat trains. During the year 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 (upto June), Indian Railways suffered loss of ₹ 55.60 lakhs due to damage caused to Vande Bharat trains in the incidents of stone pelting. In response to such incidents, 151 persons involved in stone pelting have been arrested. No incident leading to loss of life of passenger or theft/ damage to passenger belongings has been reported.

In order to safeguard the lives of passengers and damage to Railway Property due to vandalizing by miscreants, the following steps are taken by RPF in coordination with GRP/District police & Civil administration :-

- 1. Various awareness programme including OPERATION SATHI are conducted regularly in inhabited areas adjacent to Railway track to sensitize people towards the menace of stone pelting and its consequences.**
- 2. Public are being made aware of the consequences arising out of agitation leading to damage & destruction of railway property during these agitations.**

- 3. The train escorting parties have been sensitized to remain more vigilant in the vulnerable sections/spots, where incidents of vandalizing on trains are frequently reported.**
- 4. Detailed guidelines have been issued regarding action to be taken to control incidents of stone pelting on moving trains. Analysis of these incidents followed by substantive action is taken to curb these incidents.**
- 5. Regular drives are conducted against anti-social elements like drunkard, mischievous elements etc. in the effected section/black spots and the apprehended persons are prosecuted under legal provisions of law.**
- 6. Regular co-ordination with GRP/Local Police is maintained by RPF, sharing the critical information to control the menace of pelting of stones on trains.**
- 7. For immediate assistance passengers can make complaint on Rail Madad Portal directly or through Helpline Number 139 (integrated with National Emergency No. 112).**
- 8. Railways are in regular touch with passengers through various social media platforms viz. Twitter, Facebook, Koo etc. to enhance security of passengers and to address their security concerns.**
- 9. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras provided in 7264 coaches in trains and at 866 Railway stations for enhanced security of passengers**
- 10. 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.**