

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3244  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023**

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH RAILWAYS**

**†3244. SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH  
ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR:  
SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:  
SHRI SANJAY JADHAV:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is a high incidence of human trafficking in the trains;**
- (b) if so, the number of cases thereof at railway stations and railway ticket reservation centres which were brought to the notice of the Government during the last three years, train/station-wise;**
- (c) the expeditious action taken by the Government to check such cases;**
- (d) whether the Railway Protection Force (RPF) has started any nation-wide campaign to check human trafficking, if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether RPF proposes to make any deployment of staff at railway stations and ticket reservation centres and special squad in all long distance routes and trains, if so, the details in this regard;**
- (f) whether RPF is likely to assist local police in all the States in this regard, if so, the details thereof;**
- (g) whether the trains running from bordering districts are likely to be zeroed in the above mission across the country; and**
- (h) if so, the action plan prepared in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (h): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3244 BY SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR, SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL AND SHRI SANJAY JADHAV TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.08.2023 REGARDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH RAILWAYS**

**(a) to (h): ‘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. RPF is not empowered to investigate cases of Human Trafficking and whenever any case of suspected human trafficking is detected by RPF, the same is reported to GRP/District Police. The persons rescued and apprehended are handed over to concerned Police for further necessary action as per law.**

**Based on the data provided by Government Railway Police, the number of cases of human trafficking detected during the last three years i.e. 2020, 2021 and 2022 over Indian Railways are as under:-**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of cases of human trafficking detected</b>		
	<b>In Trains</b>	<b>At railway stations</b>	<b>At Railway Ticket Counter including Passenger Reservation System(PRS)</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>1</b>

**A pan India drive ‘Operation AAHT’ is undertaken by RPF, focused to take**

**effective action in cases of Human Trafficking through railways. Based on the data provided by Government Railway Police, during the current year (up to June), total 643 persons being trafficked through railway system have been rescued by RPF from the clutches of traffickers under 'Operation AAHT' with arrest of 158 traffickers. The traffickers arrested were handed over to the concerned GRPS for legal action.**

**In order to strengthen action against Human Trafficking, more than 750 Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) have been setup by RPF over the Indian Railways. These AHTUs coordinate with AHTUs of Police & CAPFs (Central Armed Police Forces) i.e. BSF & SSB functioning at district level/state levels/International Borders and with Intelligence Units, NGOs working in this field, other stakeholders and take effective action on traffickers as per law.**

**Also, field formations of RPF have been sensitized to act proactively involving all the stakeholders to prevent any type of Human Trafficking through railways particularly from the vulnerable districts of the country bordering Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar.**

**Further, the following steps are being taken by the Railways in coordination with GRP/District Police to prevent Human Trafficking over Indian Railways:-**

- 1. An Exhaustive Security circular No.03/2022 dated 02.02.2022, detailing action plan to be taken by RPF against Human Trafficking have been issued.**
- 2. Train escorting parties and staff deployed in mass contact areas have been sensitized and trained to identify the potential victims of trafficking and to take immediate action to rescue them.**

- 3. To supplement the efforts of State Police, Cyber cells of RPF have been instructed for cyber patrolling of the web/social media to look for digital footprints/traces of human trafficking in the internet and to cull out the clues helpful in taking action against Human Trafficking through railways.**
- 4. The subject of “Human Trafficking” have been included in all training courses conducted in RPF Training Centres. Also, time to time special seminars are organised to sensitize RPF personnel and train them in identification of victims and traffickers.**
- 5. Periodic review meetings are held with Nodal Officers of Anti Human Trafficking Units and other concerned agencies from time to time to review the efforts undertaken to combat human trafficking.**
- 6. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras provided in 7264 coaches and 866 Railway Stations for enhanced security of passengers.**

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