

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 60  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.12.2023**

**POOR LIGHTING AND SANITATION FACILITY IN LOCOMOTIVES**

**\*60. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the problems faced by the commuters of sub-urban trains in Southern Railways particularly women and children in North Chennai Railways due to lack of sanitation facilities and poor lighting in locomotives;**
- (b) if so, the steps taken to improve the situation and the number of railway stations equipped with sanitation facilities and upgraded lighting facilities so far;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware that suburban railway stations in the disadvantaged pockets of the metro cities due to poor infrastructure has evidences of crime and threat to children and women commuters; and**
- (d) if so, the steps taken to minimize the crime in and around the suburban railway stations along with the details of effectiveness of these measures?**

**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 STARRED QUESTION NO. 60 BY DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06.12.2023 REGARDING POOR LIGHTING AND SANITATION FACILITY IN LOCOMOTIVES**

**(a) & (b): Indian Railways have taken multi-pronged action by synergizing technology, education of users and provision of mechanized equipments in sanitation/cleanliness of trains and stations including suburban stations such as cleaning of stations through mechanized cleaning/departmental staff etc., washable aprons on platforms, tracks with jet cleaning arrangements, provision of garbage picking/disposal, provision of dustbins at stations, environment-friendly Bio-toilets fitted in all passenger coaches to avoid falling of night soil on tracks etc.**

**Long distance Suburban trains on Southern Railway, like MEMU, have minimum two toilets in a coach in an 8-car rake. Suburban rakes are cleaned at night stabling points on daily basis and exterior washing & interior mopping are done periodically. Suburban coaches are fitted with LED lights and designed to have adequate illumination, as per applicable standards along the entire length of the coaches. Further, lighting on the driver's console is also more than the specified value measured at the console. The cab is provided with ceiling lights designed to provide adequate illumination above floor level. Sanitation facilities as per norms are available in North Chennai sub-urban stations. During 2019-20, a work has been executed for a value of ₹ 1.4 crore in the North Chennai section to improve the lighting facilities at stations {replacement of corroded lamp posts, box type fittings, street light fittings, Sheet Moulding Compound (SMC boxes)}.**

**(c) & (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.**

**The concern of security of passengers in sub-urban stations are properly taken care of and to address it following steps are being taken by the Railways in coordination with GRP/ Local police for safety and security of passengers in trains and at stations:-**

- i. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.**
- ii. For immediate assistance passengers can make complaint on Rail Madad Portal directly or through Helpline Number 139 [integrated with Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) No.112].**
- iii. Railways are in regular touch with passengers through various social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook, Koo etc. to enhance security of passengers and to address their security concerns.**

- iv. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address System to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.**
- v. CCTV cameras have been provided in a number of coaches and Railway Stations over the Indian Railways which includes suburban railway system for enhanced security of passengers.**
- vi. Frequent drives are conducted against offenders travelling in coaches reserved for women passengers and offenders are prosecuted under Section 162 of the Railways Act.**
- vii. RPF personnel have been sensitised to ensure care and protection of children found in distress at railway stations using soft skills and protocol as per Standard Operating Procedure.**
- viii. Zonal Railways have been instructed for deployment of proper combined strength of male & female RPF/RPSF personnel in train escort parties, to the extent possible.**
- ix. Special squads like Crime Prevention and Detection Squad (CPDS) teams, Anti Drugging Squads are also deputed in suburban trains/at stations to ensure security of passengers.**
- x. Erection of boundary wall/fencing at identified/vulnerable locations of crime at suburban railway stations.**
- xi. 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.**

\*\*\*\*\*