## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

### LOK SABHA

## UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2886 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2020

#### STRENGTH OF RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE

2886. DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE: SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA: DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA: DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.: SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned and actual strength of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) including women constables along with their deployment, zone-wise;

(b) whether many posts of Railway Protection Force is still vacant and not filled, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Railway Protection Force has been able to achieve the objective of protecting and security of railway property, if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps being taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government has approved setting up of one Commando Training Center under Works Programme of Railways;

(e) if so, whether the Government has identified suitable and adequate land for setting up of the Commando Training Center, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen RPF during the last three years?

#### ANSWER

# MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

#### (a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2886 BY DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE, SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL, SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA, DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE, SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA, DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S. AND SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.03.2020 REGARDING STRENGTH OF RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE

(a) Sanctioned strength of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) is 74,830,
and 61,869 RPF personnel are on roll. Zone-Wise strength of Women
Constables and their deployment details is as under:

SL.	Zonal Railway	Women constable	Deployment Details
No.		Strength	
1.	Central	107	
2.	East Coast	53	
3.	East Central	50	
4.	Eastern	121	
5.	North Central	66	
6.	North Eastern	76	They are deployed for
7.	Northeast Frontier	64	
8.	Northern	170	duty at passenger areas,
9.	North Western	54	train escorting duties,
10.	South Central	22	bandobust duties,
11.	South East Central	29	evictions, special drives
12.	South Eastern	104	
13.	Southern	125	in ladies compartments &
14.	South Western	37	disabled coaches and
15.	West Central	58	assistance to ticket
16.	Western	93	checking duties.
	Railway		checking duties.
17.	<b>Protection Special</b>	399	
	Force (RPSF)		
18.	Kokan	5	
19.	Jagjivan Ram RPFAcademy	1	
Total		1634	

In addition to exiting strength of women RPF personnel, 4,078 women constables and 298 Sub-Inspectors have been recruited/empanelled and are undergoing training.

(b) Filling of vacancies is a continuous process in Security Department (Railway Protection Force). These vacancies arise due to retirements, promotions, deaths, resignations, etc., the same is filled up through open recruitments and departmental promotions as per the existing rules. During the last three years, recruitment drives have been initiated for various ranks, to fill up the existing vacancies and strengthen the Railway Protection Force (RPF). During the ongoing recruitments, 1,121 Sub-Inspectors (Executive), 8,619 Constables (Executive) & 798 Constables (Ancillary) vacancies were notified. The recruitment has been completed and total 1,121 Sub-Inspectors, 8,543 Constables (Executive) and 796 Constable (Ancillary) in RPF / RPSF have been empanelled.

(c) Yes, Sir. Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been mandated for security of Railway Property besides security of passengers & passenger area as per RPF Act, 1957 and amendment in 2003. The cases of theft of railway property (Booked Consignment & Railway Material) are registered by RPF in the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 have shown a decreasing trend from 4,436 to 4,229 to 3,987 respectively. Recovery of stolen & misappropriated Railway Property had improved from ₹ 2.48 cr. in 2017 to ₹ 3.12 cr. in 2018 and further to ₹ 4.37 cr. in 2019.

Following steps are being taken by the Railways to prevent theft of Railway Property:

i. All major railway stations, depots, yards and other vital installations are manned by Railway Protection Force round the clock.

- ii. Affected passengers & goods trains in vulnerable sections are being escorted.
- iii. Railway yards are provided with Tower lights, pathway for patrolling etc.
- iv. Frequent drives are conducted against undesirable elements in trains and railway premises to prevent such thefts.
- v. Surveillance is being kept through Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras, provided at about 522 Railway Stations and in 2136 coaches over Indian Railways.
- vi. Adequate security measures i.e. picketing, ambush etc. are done at identified black spots from time to time.
- vii. All cases of theft of Railway Property are promptly registered, investigated and arrest of criminals with prosecution as per law is ensured.
- viii. Railway material stacks at isolated locations are shifted to safer places which are manned.
  - ix. Crime Intelligence Branch (CIB) of RPF keeps regular watch over the vulnerable places and collects intelligence from time to time about active criminals indulging in theft of Railway Property. Based on actionable intelligence against receivers of stolen Railway Properties raids are conducted.
  - x. Infrastructural and procedural security arrangements are in place to prevent theft/misappropriation of railway property.
  - xi. Regular co-ordination meetings are conducted with Government Railway Police (GRP)/Civil Police for collection and sharing of criminal intelligence.
  - (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) & (f)

Indian Railways is committed to provide secure, safe and comfortable journey to all its passengers. Following steps are taken to strengthen RPF for security of passengers:-

- 1. A Commando Battalion and Commando Training Center is being set up at Jagadhari Workshop, Haryana.
- 522 stations have been provided with CCTV cameras. All Railway Stations and passenger carrying trains are planned to be progressively provided with CCTV based surveillance system and Wi-Fi facility.
- 3. An integrated security system is being implemented to strengthen surveillance mechanism over sensitive stations of the Indian Railways. The system consists of following four broad areas
  - i. IP based CCTV surveillance system
  - ii. Access control
  - iii. Personal and baggage screening system
  - iv. Bomb Detection and Disposal System
- 4. Anti sabotage checks are undertaken with sniffer dogs at all major stations as well as in trains. Baggage scanners, Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMD) and Hand Held Metal Detectors (HHMD) are being used for screening passenger and their baggages.
- "RPF Security Management System" (RSMS) pilot project has been successfully implemented with networking of 187 locations.
  Application is being rolled out for networking of all RPF Posts.
- 6. Training and capacity building facilities are being strengthened.

- RPF has also been empowered to exercise the powers & perform the duties specified under section 42 & 67 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act since 11.04.2019.
- 8. All RPF Posts have been provided with Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) access which is integrated with RPF Security Management System.
- 9. Recruitment of 4,078 and 298 lady constables and Sub-Inspectors respectively in RPF has been completed to enhancie security of women passengers. Efforts are being made to use technology to increase the reach and effectiveness of RPF in the field of security and assistance to passengers.
- 10. Close liaison is made by the Railways with the State Police/GRP authorities, Central & State Intelligence agencies and Civil authorities at all levels for prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of law & order in Railway premises as well as on running trains. 2019 coaches have been provided with Video Surveillance System till date.

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