

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2959
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2020**

LOSS OF GOODS

2959. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of the quantum of the monetary value of goods that are lost or stolen in the railway premises;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of the goods present with the railways in its lost and found section, zone-wise, along with the approximate monetary worth;**
- (d) the percentage of these goods that have been returned to their owners; and**
- (e) the manner in which the railways deals with unclaimed property?**

ANSWER

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2959 BY DR. SANJAY JAISWAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.03.2020 REGARDING LOSS OF GOODS

(a) & (b): Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law & order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP to provide better protection and security of passenger area & passengers and for matters connected therewith. Cases of Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes including theft of passengers' belongings in trains & premises are registered and investigated by the concerned Government Railway Police. Railways does not maintain any data on Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes. Whenever any information about status of crime on Railways is sought, State GRP is requested to provide the information. Based on the data provided by the Government Railway Police, during the year 2019, 37,189 cases have been registered for theft of passengers' belongings in railway premises for total value of ₹ 65.81 crores. 5,887 offenders have been arrested in this regard.

Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been mandated for security of railway property besides security of passengers & passenger area as per RPF Act, 1957 as amendment in 2003. 207 cases have been registered for theft of consignments booked through railway during the year 2019, valued at ₹ 96 lakh. 434 offenders have been arrested in this regard.

(c): Zone wise details of goods (left behind and unclaimed parcels) present with the Railways in Lost Property Office are appended as Appendix-I.

(d): In the last three years, approximately 15% of the goods have been returned to the owners from the Lost Property Office.

(e): In case of unclaimed property, action is taken as per Section 84 of the Indian Railways Act 1989 as given below:-

- 1. If any person fails to take delivery of-**
 - a. any consignment; or**
 - b. the consignment released from detention made under sub-section (1) of section 83; or**
 - c. any remaining part of the consignment under sub-section (2) of section 83, such consignment shall be treated as unclaimed.**
- 2. The railway administration may, -**
 - a. in the case of an unclaimed consignment which is perishable in nature, sell such consignment in the manner provided in clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 83; or**
 - b. in the case of an unclaimed consignment which is not perishable in nature, cause a notice to be served upon the consignee if his name and address are known, and upon the consignor if the name and address of the consignee are not known, requiring him to remove the goods within a period of seven days from the receipt thereof and if such notice cannot be served or there is a failure to comply with the requisition in the notice, sell such consignment in the manner provided in clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 83.**
- 3. The Railway administration shall, out of the sale proceeds received under sub-section (2), retain a sum equal to the freight and other charges including expenses for the sale due to it and the surplus, if any, of such sale proceeds shall be rendered to the person entitled thereto.**

APPENDIX-I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2959 BY DR. SANJAY JAISWAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.03.2020 REGARDING LOSS OF GOODS

(c): Zone-wise details of goods (left behind and unclaimed parcels) present with the Railways in Lost Property Office are as under:-

S.No.	Railway	Details of Goods/Items present/lying in Lost and Found Section	Approx. Monetary Value of the Goods/Items (in ₹)
1.	Central	408	1,36,324/-
2.	Eastern	192	8,324/-
3.	East Central	121	74,695/-
4.	East Coast	0	0
5.	Northern	2073	17,34,764/-
6.	North Central	612	7,03,600/-
7.	North Eastern	602	3,62,573/-
8.	Northeast Frontier	395	8,04,500/-
9.	North Western	448	4,51,730/-
10.	Southern	324	4,31,143/-
11.	South Central	28	65,000/-
12.	South Western	56	4,960/-
13.	South Eastern	0	0
14.	South East Central	19	95,900/-
15.	Western	1396	4,01,311/-
16.	West Central	109	16,320/-
