GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2712 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2021

SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AT STATIONS

†2712. SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether more than four years after a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Indian Railways and RailTel for the installation of surveillance cameras at 983 stations across the country to enhance safety of women passengers has derailed and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there have been dozens of cases of crimes against women, including murders, sexual assaults, attacks and robbery in railway stations or trains during the last five years;
- (c) if so, whether the purposes of setting up surveillance cameras has been defeated over the years;
- (d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon;
- (e) whether the Union Government has investigated the causes of derailment of the MoU and if so, the outcome thereof and the measures taken by the Union Government in this regard; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Union Government to give priority for installation of surveillance cameras to enhance safety of women passengers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) No, Sir. Out of 983 stations, 310 stations have been provided with Video Surveillance System. At remaining stations, provisioning of CCTV is in progress.

Zone-wise details of 310 stations is appended.

(b) to (d): 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 crime against women passengers in trains and at railway stations are registered the concerned Government investigated by Police/District 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 Government Railway Police, the number of cases of crimes against women passengers including rape, murder, assault and eve-teasing in trains and at railway stations registered, have shown a decreasing trend since the year 2018 which was in increasing trend in the year 2016 to 2018. Also, there is significant decrease in the number of cases of Robbery in the year 2020 as compared to previous years i.e. from 2016 to 2019.

However, the following steps are also being taken by the Railways in coordination with GRP for Safety and security of passengers in trains and at stations:-

- (i) RPF has taken several measures to provide better security of women passengers. An Pan-Indian initiative "Meri Seheli" was launched by RPF on 17.10.2020 with objective to provide enhanced safety and security to lady passengers travelling by trains for their entire journey i.e. from the originating station to destination station. The focus is to provide the security to lady passengers especially those travelling alone and to instill a sense of security in them. Teams of lady officers and staff have been formed who are well trained and briefed about the objective.
- (ii) On vulnerable and identified routes/section, trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.

- (iii) Security Help Line Number 139 (Tollfree) is made operational (24X7) over Indian Railway for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
- (iv) Fixed CCTV cameras have been provided in 4141 coaches and 814 Railway stations for enhancing security of passengers.
- (v) Drives are conducted against entry of male passengers into Railway compartments reserved for women passengers.
- (vi) Exclusive unreserved coaches/compartment for female passengers in EMU (Electrical Multiple Unit)/DMU (Diesel Multiple Unit)/MMTS (Multi Modal Transport System) trains & local passenger trains depending upon demand pattern as well as availability of accommodation.
- (vii) Running of ladies special EMU/MEMU/MMTS service on the suburban section of Mumbai, Kolkata, Secunderabad, and Chennai as well as on the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) Sections.
- (viii) Ladies Special trains running in Metropolitan cities are being escorted by lady RPF personnel. In other trains, where escorts are provided, the train escorting parties have been briefed to keep extra vigil on the lady passengers travelling alone, ladies coaches en-route and at halting stations.
- (ix) For safety of ladies passengers, Emergency Talk System and Closed Circuit Television Surveillance Cameras have been provided in ladies compartment/coaches of all newly manufactured Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) and Air-conditioned rakes of Kolkata Metro. This system has also been provided in all newly manufactured Air-conditioned EMU rakes and Electric Train Sets.
- (x) With a view to further fortify the security system, Flasher lights have also been provided in ladies coaches in EMU rakes in some Zonal Railways. These lights start blinking and buzzer will start sounding once the alarm chain in pulled and it will continue till resetting of alarm chain.
- (e) & (f) In order to expedite the work for provision of Video Surveillance System at Railway stations, it has been divided between some Zones & RailTel, a Public Sector Undertaking of Indian Railways.

APPENDIX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2712 BY SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.08.2021 REGARDING SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AT STATIONS

(a) Zone-wise details of Provision of CCTV Cameras at Stations under Nirbhaya Fund.

S.NO.	Railways	Number of Stations provided with CCTV
1	CENTRAL	16
2	EASTERN	7
3	EAST CENTRAL	38
4	EAST COAST	11
5	NORTHERN	37
6	NORTH CENTRAL	20
7	NORTH EASTERN	15
8	NORTHEAST FRONTIER	5
9	NORTH WESTERN	21
10	SOUTHERN	42
11	SOUTH CENTRAL	20
12	SOUTH EASTERN	30
13	SOUTH EAST CENTRAL	2
14	SOUTH WESTERN	14
15	WESTERN	15
16	WEST CENTRAL	17
Total (No. of Stations)		310
