

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3259  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2022**

**SAFETY OF WOMEN PASSENGERS**

**3259. DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:  
SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:  
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:  
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:**

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

- (a) the sanctioned and actual strength of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) including women constables;**
- (b) whether many posts of RPF is still vacant and not filled, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether RPF has been able to achieve the objective of protecting and securing railway property, if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps being taken in this regard;**
- (d) the number of person who have been rescued under Mission Jeewan Raksha by RPF during each of the last three years and the number of RPF personnel who have been rewarded in this regard; and**
- (e) whether the railways has launched 'Meri Saheli' initiative to focus on the safety of women passengers and if so, whether this initiative is extended to all zones and if so, the number of women RPF personnel deployed for this purpose?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3259 BY DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE, SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE, SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE AND SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.03.2022 REGARDING SAFETY OF WOMEN PASSENGERS**

**(a): Sanctioned strength of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) is 74,719, and 66,360 RPF personnel are on roll including 4920 Women Constables as on 31.01.2022.**

**(b): 7762 posts are vacant in RPF/RPSF as on 31.01.2022. This includes selection through direct recruitment and departmental promotion both. Arising of vacancies is an ongoing process in security department (Railway Protection Force) due to retirements, promotions, deaths, resignations, etc., the same are filled up through open recruitments and departmental promotions as per the existing rules.**

**(c): Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been mandated for security of railway property besides security of passengers & passenger area as per RPF Act, 1957 as amended in 2003. During the years 2019, 2020 & 2021, the number of cases of theft of railway property (Booked Consignment & Railway Material) registered by RPF are 5185, 3281 and 5154 respectively. The value of Railway property stolen have decreased from ₹14.26 cr. in 2019 to ₹ 11.31 cr. in 2020 and further to ₹ 8.89 cr. in the year 2021.**

**The following steps are being taken by the Railways to control theft of Railway Property/Goods transported through railways:-**

- 1.All major railway stations, depots, yards and other vital installations are manned by Railway Protection Force round the clock.**
- 2.Escorting of affected passengers & goods trains in identified vulnerable sections is being done.**

- 3. Strengthening of basic security arrangements at Railway yards, Goods Sheds and Parcel Sheds is being done.**
  - 4. Frequent drives are conducted against undesirable elements in trains and railway premises to prevent such thefts.**
  - 5. Surveillance is kept through Close Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras, provided at about 850 railway stations.**
  - 6. Adequate security measures i.e. picketing, ambush etc. are done at identified black spots from time to time.**
  - 7. All cases of theft of Railway Property are promptly registered, enquired and arrested criminals are prosecuted as per law.**
  - 8. Crime Intelligence Branch (CIB) and Special Intelligence Branch (SIB) of RPF keep regular watch and collect intelligence from time to time about active criminals indulged in theft of Railway Property. Based on actionable intelligence against receivers of stolen Railway Properties raids are conducted.**
  - 9. Regular co-ordination meetings are conducted with Government Railway Police (GRP)/Civil Police for collection and sharing of criminal intelligence.**
- (d): Being “Citizens in Uniform”, RPF personnel go out of the way risking their own lives to save lives of others under “Mission Jeevan Raksha”. In its constant endeavor to save human lives, RPF has saved 1098 lives on tracks during the last three years i.e. 2019, 2020 & 2021. A total of 287 RPF personnel have been awarded by railway authorities in this regard. Besides this, the President of India has awarded 3 RPF Personnel with ‘Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak’, 6 RPF Personnel with ‘Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak’ and 6 RPF Personnel with ‘Jeevan Raksha Padak’ during the last three years i.e. 2019, 2020 & 2021.**
- (e): ‘Meri Saheli’ initiative was launched as Pilot Project by Railway Protection Force (RPF) across South Eastern Railway for security of**

**women passengers in trains originating in that zone. Considering its success in instilling a sense of security among women passengers, this initiative has been rolled over to all zonal railways across Indian Railways' network from 17.10.2020. Meri Saheli Initiative was launched to provide safety and security to lady passengers travelling alone or with minors by long distance trains for their entire journey from originating station to terminating station. Dedicated teams of lady RPF personnel have been formed across all zonal railways for its implementation. Presently, 939 women RPF personnel are being deployed for this purpose on an average daily across Indian Railways.**

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