

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2847
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025**

'MERI SAHELI' INITIATIVE IN NORTHERN RAILWAY ZONE

2847. ADV PRIYA SAROJ:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cases of harassment and theft reported by women passengers on trains running through Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;**
- (b) the number of trains in the Northern Railway zone that are currently escorted by RPF/GRP female constables under the 'Meri Saheli' initiative;**
- (c) the status of CCTV camera installation in the ladies' coaches of suburban and passenger trains operating in the Varanasi-Lucknow sector; and**
- (d) whether there is any proposal to install panic buttons in General and Sleeper coaches and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (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 State-wise details of cases of crimes against women passengers over Indian railways are published by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in 'Crime in India'.

'Meri Saheli' initiative is undertaken for focused attention for safety and security of woman passengers travelling alone by long distance trains for their entire journey i.e. from originating station to destination station. Presently, 32 'Meri Saheli' teams have been deployed at important railway stations over Northern Railway. These teams brief the woman passengers travelling alone about the security measures to be adopted during the journey and the details of the channels available for seeking the help in distress. The RPF posts falling enroute are also informed well in advance about the movement of lady passengers travelling alone and are kept on high alert to respond to any situation without any loss of time. Also, 10 trains are escorted in vulnerable section by women RPF and GRP personnel over Northern Railway. The CCTV cameras have been installed in 130 ladies coaches of suburban (MEMU/DEMU) trains operating in Northern and North Eastern Railway. Further, instruction have been issued to Zonal Railways and Production Units to install CCTV cameras in coaches to strengthen passenger security.

Improvement / up-gradation of Rolling Stock to enhance safety and comfort of passengers is a continuous and ongoing process on Indian Railways.

There is a provision of 4 Emergency Talk Back Units in every coach of Vande Bharat trains. This facilitates communications of passengers with Train Manager / Loco-pilots in case of exigencies. Passenger Emergency Alarm Buttons have been provided in the Vande Bharat Train. Each coach has been provisioned with 4 such push buttons for emergency usage.