GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 132 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.02.2016

RESTRUCTURING OF RPF AND POLICING IN RAILWAYS

132. DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN: SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN: DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD: SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether incidence of hoax bomb threats in railways are increasing leading to long delays for passengers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been requesting the Government to get its own bomb disposal and detection squad;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay; and
- (e) the other steps taken/ being taken by the Government to give fullproof protection to the railway passengers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(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. 132 BY DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN, SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN, DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD AND SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.02.2016 REGARDING RESTRUCTURING OF RPF AND POLICING IN RAILWAYS.

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The details of the hoax bomb threats in Railways received and of those leading to long delays for passengers during the years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 (upto January) are as under:-

Year	No. of hoax bomb threats received	No. of hoax bomb threats received leading to long delays for passengers
2013	50	10
2014	84	17
2015	153	45
2016 (Upto January)	29	10

(c) and (d): Policing on Railways is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation in Railway premises as well as on running trains is, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). Therefore, the responsibility of detection and disposal of bomb, IEDs etc. lies with the State Government. However, some bomb detection equipments like Explosive Vapour Detector, Deep Search Metal Detectors and bomb disposal equipments like bomb suppression blanket and bomb basket etc., have been acquired by Railway Protection Force (RPF) at few of the Zonal Railways, which may be used in case of any exigency, by trained RPF personnel. This is in addition to Dog Squads of RPF, which are functioning over different Zonal Railways as part of Bomb detection squads. (e): RPF supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying its staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive stations. Besides, the following steps are being taken by the Railways to provide maximum security to passengers:-

- An Integrated Security System consisting of surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, Access Control etc. have been sanctioned to improve surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive railway stations.
- On vulnerable and identified routes/ sections, 2300 trains (on an average) are escorted by RPF daily, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by GRP of different States daily.
- 3. All the ladies special trains running in Metropolitan cities are being escorted by lady RPF constables.
- 4. The ladies compartments in suburban trains are being escorted by RPF and GRP during peak/non peak hours. Staff deployment is made during late night and early morning in suburban trains to ensure better security to the lady passengers.
- 5. Joint drives by RPF/GRP and Commercial Department are conducted from time to time against the unauthorized entry of passengers in trains and railway premises.
- 6. RPF holds regular coordination meetings with State Police and GRP besides sharing of intelligent inputs with Intelligence Bureau and other intelligence agencies of State.
- 7. Security Helpline No.182 is operational over Indian Railway for the security related assistance to passengers in distress.

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