

- (b) whether any action has been taken against the Maoists by the Railways;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The numbers of incidents of sabotage suspected to have been perpetrated by the Left Wing Extremists during the years 2008 and 2009 were 21 and 41 respectively over Indian Railways.

(b) to (d) Policing on Railways is the duty of the State Governments concerned, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). As such, maintenance of law and order and control of crime on Railways is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. FIR has been lodged by the Railway authorities in the incidents against which, specific cases have been registered by the concerned Government Railway Police.

Placement of doctors in Duronto Express

1038. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to place doctors on board in Duronto Express;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would also take initiative to place doctors in all long distance trains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Placing of doctors, in Duronto Express trains only has been started as a pilot project for a period of one year. The scheme envisages availability of one doctor and a paramedic on board, to deal with medical emergencies.

Phasing out of IRCTC

1039. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to phase out services of Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and handle catering services itself;
- (b) whether Government has also asked IRCTC to stop contract catering services of IRCTC to private licensees and shift to department canteen;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is also proposed to hire huge manpower to carry out the catering services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (e) The Catering Policy of Railways is under review.

**More electric train services between
Chennai-Tirutani**

1040. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is persistent demand for increasing electric train services from Chennai-Tirutani and Tirutani-Chennai; and

(b) if so, the proposal of Government on this long pending demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Introduction of new service between Chennai Beach-Tiruttani-Chennai Central has been announced in the Railway Budget 2010-211.

Attachment of pantry cars in long distance trains

1041. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has plans to attach pantry cars in all long distance trains from Chennai Central; and

(b) the criteria adopted for attachment of pantry cars in the long distance trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Attachment of Pantry Cars to trains Ex. Chennai Central and other locations is considered on the basis of various factors such as the availability of rolling stock, the duration of journey, priority of the train, the timings, commercial justification, operational feasibility etc.

Crimes in running trains

1042. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of crimes including theft reported during the last three years and the current year in the running trains till date;

(b) whether safety of passengers is compromised due to shortage of personnel in Railway Protection Force;

(c) if so, the steps taken to recruit personnel in the Railway Protection Force; and

(d) the other measures being taken by Railways to prevent such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The number of crimes including theft of passengers' belongings reported in running trains during the years 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 (Upto January) are as under:—