

(e) if so, the details of additional revenue and operational advantages derived from the implementation of the unigauge policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) An amount of approximately (Gross) Rs. 9,595.34 crores has been incurred on gauge conversion in the last ten years.

(b) Since 1.4.2002, 3207 Kms. of Meter Gauge/Narrow Gauge lines have been converted into Broad Gauge.

(c) The expenditure incurred on gauge conversion since 1.4.2002 has been approximately (Gross) Rs. 4,571.89 crores.

(d) and (e) Conversion of lines have given additional revenue and operational advantage due to removal of transshipment points, opening of alternative routes, seamless operations and ease in maintenance of one type of rolling stock.

Crime in trains

521. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a spurt in crimes in trains/stations including atrocities against women;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents reported during 2006 and the action taken in those cases;

(c) the measures taken to check increasing crimes in railways;

(d) whether the Railways propose to install close circuit television in compartments to check crimes there; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) There is a decrease in the total number of cases of crimes (Murder, Dacoity, Robbery, Crime against women passengers and theft of passengers' belonging) reported in trains and Railway premises during the year 2005 as compared to the previous year though the figures vary slightly under individuals heads as borne

[28 July, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

out by the table given below:—

Year		Murder/ Attempt to murder	Dacoity	Robbery	Rape	Theft of passengers luggage
2004	In trains	70	107	224	9	7055
	In premises	295	25	183	33	4645
2005	In trains	54	95	174	8	6103
	In premises	244	31	151	29	4743

However, there is an increase in the incidents of Dacoity and Rape during the period January to March 2006 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year.

Year		Murder/ Attempt to murder	Dacoity	Robbery	Rape	Theft of passengers luggage
2005	In trains	14	16	48	0	1631
(Upto		67	5	49	6	1297
March	In permises					
2006	In trains	5	30	33	3	1384
(Upto	In	53	8	47	17	1104
March	permises					

All cases of crime on railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the concerned Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State Governments.

(c) According to Entry No. 2 of the State List of the Constitution of India, 'Police' (including Railways and village Police), is a State subject. Registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State Police. The State Police have a separate wing called the Government Railway Police (GRP) for dealing with all matters relating to law and order on the Railways. As such, Ministry of Railways has to depend largely on them for control of crime over Railways.

To effectively supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) staff are being deployed to escort many trains and also on access

control duties in the passenger area to augment the efforts of the State Governments. RPF has also been empowered to deal with the minor offences affecting the train operations such as alarm chain pulling, roof travel, touting, ticketless travel, unauthorized entry into coaches earmarked for ladies etc. (except Sabotage related offences under Sections 150 to 152) with the amendment to the Railways Act, 1989 *w.e.f.* July 2004. The objective was to ensure that the State Police (Government Railway Police) get more man power and time to handle heinous offences such as Murder, Dacoity, Robbery, Rape etc. including Sabotage and Train Wrecking, under the provisions of Indian Penal Code, the Railways Act and other laws of the land. Close liaison with State authorities has been maintained and concerned State authorities have been requested to sensitize the Government Railway Police personnel particularly about crime against women. State level co-ordination committees have been constituted in most of the States at the initiative of the Railway Board. These Committees comprise of Additional Director General of Police (Railways), all the Chief Security Commissioners/ RPF, concerned heads of the Intelligence and Crime Branches of the State and they meet periodically.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Declaration of trains as superfast

522. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many trains have been declared superfast during last one year so far, after placement of last budget; and

(b) what would be the increase of passenger fare for such declaration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A total number of 140 trains have been declared superfast so far after the placement of last Rail Budget 2006-07.

(b) There is no increase in basic fare, except surcharge ranging from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50 per passenger, depending on the class of travel, leviable for travel by such trains.