

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 passengers on Duronto Express going from Delhi to Ernakulam had fallen ill after taking the morning breakfast;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is an arrangement of just 25 bed-roll for 72 passengers in sleeper class and there is no arrangement of blankets, bed sheets, pillows and towels in A.C. Coach of Duronto Express;

(c) whether it is necessary to mention about blanket, bed-roll etc. in Duronto train while booking for the ticket;

(d) whether passengers are facing difficulty for not having such provision in the reservation form; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to remove the difficulties of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) There was an incident of food poisoning in Nizamuddin-Ernakulam Duronto Express on 17.5.2010 at Kozhikode, 19 passengers were hospitalized and 11 required OPD treatment.

(b) No, Sir. All passengers of AC class coaches are provided with complete bed rolls. As far as sleeper class passengers are concerned, the bed rolls are supplied on demand. Space has been earmarked on the sleeper class coaches for stacking of bed rolls.

(c) Only sleeper class passengers of Duronto Express trains are required to indicate the requirement of bed rolls while booking their tickets. Bed roll includes blanket.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Incidents of theft in trains**

1445. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the instance of theft and drugging of passengers to rob them in the passenger trains have increased recently particularly in the south bound long distance trains;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported in the months of May-June-July this year; and

(c) the measures being taken to ensure safety of passengers and their luggage in the moving passenger trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Govt. Railway Police.

However, to provide better security to the traveling passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railway Protection Force is deployed to escort important trains to effectively supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways.

The following measures are being taken for the security of passengers:

1. 1275 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.

2. An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through CCTV Camera Network, access control, Anti-sabotage checks has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 vulnerable Railway stations.

3. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police (GRP).

4. Public awareness against crime like Drugging of passengers is done through regular announcements at stations and in trains.

5. An amendment is under examination in the RPF Act to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

**Realisation of dues by IRCTC from food catering companies**

†1446. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether IRCTC has received payment from all food catering companies;
- (b) if not, the number of companies which have not yet made payment along with the amount due from each of them and the details of such trains;
- (c) whether all the above mentioned matters have been investigated into; and
- (d) if so, whether any action has been taken against the persons responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d)  
The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

**Facilities for Physically challenged passengers**

1447. SHRIMATI. NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data regarding total number of physically challenged passengers travelled in long distanced trains during 2009-2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken to maintain the information henceforth;
- (c) whether there is no provision for ramp etc. in railway coaches for easy ingress and egress for physically challenged passengers in trains;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.