

- (viii) Signalling gears have been damaged at Qazigund, Sadura, Anantnag, Bijbehara, Panzgam, Avantipur, Kakapora, Pampore, Srinagar and Budgam stations.

Law and order including 'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, 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.

#### **Theft and robbery on running trains**

3477. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that thefts on running trains have increased manifold, including one such robbery in Bihar recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering to enhance the security on trains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Theft of passengers' belongings in running trains have marginally increased. On 06.08.2010, Train No. 3111 Kolkata — Delhi Lal Quila Express was stopped by miscreants at Kundar Halt between Jamui — Mananpur Railway stations in Jhajha — Kiul section over East Central Railway in Bihar by pulling alarm chain, and looted the passengers travelling in 4 sleeper coaches and 1 air-conditioned coach. On resistance by the Government Railway Police escorts, the miscreants opened fire causing bullet injury to one of the Constables. 15 passengers also sustained injury. Government Railway Police/Jhajha has registered a case *vide* crime no. 24/2010 dated 06.08.2010 under section 147, 148, 149, 323, 324, 353, 332, 224, 307, 379 Indian Penal Code and 27 Arms Act.

(c) and (d) 'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments concerned which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) and Civil Police. Railways bear 50% cost of expenditure on the Government Railway Police. As such, Railway has to depend largely on the State Governments. Railway Protection Force (RPF) does not have any legal power to prosecute the offenders involved in criminal offences like dacoity/robbery/theft of passengers' belongings, drugging etc.

Following measures are being taken by the Railways for the security of passengers:—

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

2. The Ministry of Railways has been closely coordinating with the State Governments for prevention and detection of crimes on Railways and maintenance of law and order.
3. A coordination meeting with the State Home Secretaries, officials of Ministry of Home Affairs, Intelligence Bureau and Railways was held on 20.01.2010 to Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.
4. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with GRP and Civil Police by Railways at Zonal and Divisional level to review the crime position in Railways.
5. An amendment in the RPF Act is under examination to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

#### **Extension of train services to ST dominated areas**

3478. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to extend train services to ST dominated areas on no profit no loss basis as announced in the Rail Budget 2009-10;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to expedite the matter on priority basis;
- (d) the names of the places in the country including, Surat, Bharuch, Mehsana, Tapti and Navsari of Gujarat where survey for laying of the railway lines has been completed; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Socially desirable projects have been up to provide rail connectivity, and thereby train services, in backward areas. Many of the ongoing new line projects are on socio-economic considerations. In the Railway Budget 2010-11, it has been proposed to process socially desirable new line projects in various parts of the country.

(c) Extension of train services is an ongoing process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility and resource availability.

(d) and (e) A Statement is enclosed.

#### ***Statement***

##### *Details of survey for new rail lines*

Sl.No.	Name of the Survey
1	2
1.	Ajmer-Kota