

Railway Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying their staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive railway stations.

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

1. On vulnerable and identified routes/ sections, 1275 trains are escorted by Railway 'protection Force daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government railway Police of different States daily.
2. An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, access control, Anti-sabotage checks has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive and 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 crimes like Drugging of passengers is done through regular announcements at stations and in trains.
5. An amendment in the Railway Protection Force Act to enable Railway Protection Force to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively is under active consideration.

#### **Train service between Lucknow and Dehradun**

†2159. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no train service between Lucknow and Dehradun while both the cities are capitals of two States;

(b) if so, whether Government would announce a daily train service between Lucknow and Dehradun;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) No, Sir. At present, 5 pairs of trains are available between Lucknow and Dehradun.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal for introduction of daily train service between Lucknow and Dehradun at present, due to operational and terminal constraints.

#### **Extension of railway line to Sikkim**

2160. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of progress made towards extension of railway line to Sikkim;
- (b) whether the pace of work is going on as per schedule or there is any delay and cost over-run;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Sivok-Rangpo new line has been sanctioned for providing Rail connectivity to Sikkim and the work is in progress.

- (b) The work is progressing as per schedule and according to availability of resources.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Tentative date of completion of the Project is March, 2015.

#### **Train accidents**

2161. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of train accidents in the country since May 2009 till date;
- (b) the number of human casualties in these accidents;
- (c) the estimated loss of property due to these accidents;
- (d) whether any punitive action has been initiated against railway personnel found responsible for train accidents;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether all safety-related posts in Railways are filled; and
- (g) if not, the reasons for non filling of safety-related posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Number of consequential train accidents, i.e., collisions, derailments, manned level crossing