

- (d) if so, the steps taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) At present, a three tier security system comprising of District Police, Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) is functional over the Indian Railways. Generally, prevention and detection of crime in station premises and trains is the responsibility of GRP; security of tracks, bridges and tunnels is entrusted upon the District police. As per the RPF Act, RPF is responsible for security of railway property, passenger and passenger area.

- (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The issue is under consideration. Comments of States have been solicited on this proposal.

Financial crunch faced by Railways

2010. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have increased freight hike by 90 per cent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that this has been necessitated by the huge financial crunch the Railways are presently facing; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In an effort to (i) adjust freight rates in line with increased input costs; (ii) raise resources for undertaking maintenance and rehabilitation, modernization and critical safety related works, and (iii) meet demands emanating from various social obligations that the Railways are required to discharge, it had become necessary to rationalize the freight tariff structure. Accordingly, a revised set of freight rates, which do not constitute an increase of 90% over the earlier rates, has taken effect from 6th March, 2012.

Daily train between Amritsar and Nanded

2011. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have received any request from Government of Punjab