238	Written Answers to		[RAJYA SABHA]		Unstarred Questions
	57.	Janakpuri East		77.	Udyog Nagar
	58.	Janakpur West		78.	Surajmal Stadium
	59.	Uttam Nagar East		79.	Nangloi
	60.	Uttam Nagar West		80.	Nangloi Rly Station
	61.	Nawada		81.	Rajdhani Park
	62.	Dwarka Sec14		82.	Mundka
	63.	Dwarka Sec21		83.	Khan Market
	64.	Karkardooma		84.	J.L.N. Stadium
	65.	Anand Vihar ISBT		85.	Moolchand
	66.	Kaushambi		86.	Okhla
	67.	Vaishali		87.	Kailash Colony
	68.	Kirti Nagar		88.	Nehru Place
	69.	Inderlok		89.	Kalka Ji Mandir
	70.	Ashok Park Main		90.	Govind Puri
	71.	Punjabi Bagh		91.	Jasola Appolo
	72.	Shivaji Park		92.	Sarita Vihar
	73.	Madipur		93.	Mohan Estate
	74.	Paschim Vihar East		94.	Tugalakabad
	75.	Paschim Vihar West		95.	Badarpur
	76.	Peeragarhi			

## Passenger safety

- 4175. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Railways have failed to prioritise passenger security in the recent years;
- (b) if not, the steps taken by Government to prevent incidents of eve-teasing and molestation in moving trains;
- (c) the reasons for pendency of appointments of 20,000 personnel required in Railway Protection Force (RPF) since nine years;

- whether the plans to induct adequate RPF women battalions have not materialised yet;
  - if so, the reasons therefor; (e)
- whether the confusion between the RPF and GRP in terms of authority (f) and administration has worsened the issue of passenger safety; and
  - the corrective measures taken by Government to address the issue? (g)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. 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 including creation of secure environment for women are, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the States concerned. Accordingly, all the cases of crime against passengers including women passengers are reported to, registered and investigated by Government Railway Police concerned. However, Railway Protection Force supplements the efforts of Government Railway Police by deploying its staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive stations. Besides, Railways maintain regular coordination with Government Railway Police and Local Police to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime against passengers.

No, Sir. It is not a fact that 20,000 personnel are required in Railway Protection Force since last 9 years. In fact as on 31.01.2013, there are 17255 posts vacant in Railway Protection Force. Recruitments have been made in regular interval; still this large number of vacancies occurred due to sanction of additional posts in Railway Protection Force during the years 2010-2012.

For filling up of existing vacancies as well as newly created posts in the Railway Protection Force action has been initiated. For filling up of various posts of Sub-Inspectors in RPF/RPSF, all recruitment formalities have been completed and preparation of final result is under process whereas for filling up posts of Constables, scrutiny of applications has been completed. 16.4 lakhs applications have been found valid. Written examination has been planned in June, 2013 when the schools are available to conduct examinations of this magnitude. Written examination is being conducted in regional languages also.

To provide better security to women passengers, efforts are being made to increase the ratio of women personnel in Railway Protection Force. For this, Railway Protection Force has earmarked 10% of the total advertised vacancy for women candidates.

- (d) and (e) The land for setting up of a Mahila Battalion of Railway Protection Special Force at Asansol has been identified and development of the land for construction of requisite infrastructure like administrative building, barracks etc. is underway by the concerned Railway authorities and the vacancies for recruitment against sanctioned posts for the battalion have already been indented for filling up through centralized recruitment.
- (f) and (g) No, Sir. Prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of law and order over railways is the statutory responsibility of States which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP). Railway, through the Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing the efforts of States in providing security over railways.

## Railway network in Sikkim

4176. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress on the work to connect Sevoke in North Bengal to Rangpo in Sikkim by a railway network;
- (b) the details of the works undertaken for setting up of new railway line/network in Sikkim;
- (c) the details of costs to be incurred for construction of the railway line network; and
  - (d) the scheduled date of completion of the proposed network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) Sevoke-Rangpo new line project (44.39 km.) has been included in Railway Budget 2008-09. The latest anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 3380.58 crore. An amount of Rs. 102.63 crore has been spent on it upto March, 2013. An outlay of Rs. 25 crore has been proposed in Railway Budget 2013-14 for it.

Final Location Survey of the project has been completed. The work has been entrusted to M/s IRCON, a PSU under the Ministry of Railways, for execution. Target for completion has not been fixed.