

Demand for AC 3 tier coaches

1965. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is more demand for berths in AC 3 tier coaches by railway passengers;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the action being taken by Railways to make more AC 3 tier class coaches available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The demand for berths in AC 3 tier coaches exceeds its availability. In the current financial year, the average occupancy in AC 3 tier coaches including the waitlisted passengers, is 111%.

- (c) The production of AC 3 tier coaches in Production Units is taken up as per traffic requirements. During the last three financial years, the production of AC 3 tier coaches has been increased from 319 to 361 and further to 382 respectively.

Security of train passengers

1966. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures the Ministry proposes to take to reduce thousands of incidents of theft during the long-distance train travel; and
- (b) the measures the Ministry proposes to take for securing the overall safety of the train passengers during long-distance train travel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) and (b) Policing on Railways is a State Subject and the prevention and investigation of crime, in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through their Government Railway Police (GRP). Hence, crime on Railways are reported to and investigated by the Government Railway Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by escorting important trains in affected sections and access control duties at important and sensitive stations.

Besides, the following measures are taken by the Railways to ensure security of the 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. Sensitization through awareness campaigns amongst the front line Railway Staff like ticket checking staff, RPF and on-board employees who have constant interface with the travelling public towards crime against passengers is being done.
3. Security Help-Line numbers have been set up in the Zonal Control Rooms to enable passengers to seek security related assistance.
4. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police.
5. Ladies special trains are being escorted by lady RPF staff wherever available in sub-urban sections over Central, Eastern, Northern, Western and Southern Railways. The strength of women RPF personnel is being increased by eight companies already sanctioned, and another 4000 as announced in the current budget, with a view to further enhance security of women passengers.
6. An integrated Security System including electronic surveillance through CCTV to enhance security over 202 sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations is under implementation.

Railway projects in Bihar

†1967. SHRI RAMCHANDRAPRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether operating Bullet train between Mumbai and Ahmedabad has been announced in this year's budget, if so, the total expenditure estimated on operation of the train;

(b) the expenditure estimated on the completion of on-going railway projects in Bihar; and

(c) whether in place of the Bullet train, the Ministry would get railway projects of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.