

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to facilitate easy movement of elderly and differently abled passengers, as per the existing guidelines, escalators/elevators are to be provided at 'A1' category and escalators at 'A' category, 'C' category stations and stations of tourist importance, progressively based on techno commercial feasibility and availability of funds. So far, 244 no. of escalators at 96 stations and 101 no. of lifts at 44 stations have been provided across Indian Railways. In addition, 400 no. of escalators at 171 stations and 400 no. of lifts at 168 stations have been sanctioned. The review of action taken by Zonal Railways in this regard is a continuous process and is done as per need, priority of work and availability of funds.

#### **Starting Durgam Cheruvu Express on Delhi-Goa route**

2219. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to start Durgam Cheruvu Express on Delhi-Goa route;
- (b) whether any survey has been made in this regard;
- (c) by when will the train running commence on the route;
- (d) the number and classes of bogies proposed to be attached and the number of days it would run on this route; and
- (e) whether there is going to be any improvement in the ambience and/or substantial changes in the bogies, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As there is no proposal for starting any new Durgam Cheruvu train at present, a specific survey of the Goa-Delhi route has not been undertaken.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Helpline to report incidents of crime in trains**

2220. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a helpline has been launched to report incidents of crime in the trains, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) how far it has helped to control crime in the running trains and at station premises;

(c) whether it is also proposed to deploy police personnel in the local trains, especially in the country-side to prevent eve-teasing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. A Helpline has been made functional through Security Control Rooms of Railway Protection Force (RPF) to provide round the clock security related assistance to passengers during their journey over Railways. This Helpline is functioning through a three digit No. 182 (toll free) allotted by the Department of Telecommunications.

(b) Operationalisation of the Helpline has helped in reducing the reaction and response time in facilitating passenger security. It is pertinent to mention that prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the States, which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP). As such, complaints received through Security Helpline are forwarded to the GRP concerned for registration and investigation.

(c) and (d) At present, about 1300 trains are escorted by the RPF in addition to 2200 trains escorted by the GRPs of different States on an average daily. Some of the local trains which have been identified as prone to crime are escorted by GRP/RPF. Special women squads of RPF like 'Sakthi Padai', 'Bhairvi', 'Shakti Mahila Teams' have also been formed by zonal Railways for safety and security of women passengers in suburban sections.

#### **Upgradation of Nuapada railway station**

2221. SHRI A. V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nuapada Railway Station was upgraded to Category 'B' for being a link to three important tourism places of Western Odisha and also being the headquarter of Nuapada district which is infested with maoist activities;

(b) if so, whether minimum passenger facilities for a grade 'B' railway station have been provided; and

(c) by when the Puri-Surat Super Fast Express and Visakhapatnam-Nizamuddin Samata Express, which provide direct connectivity for passengers of this region to Ahmedabad and Delhi will have stoppage at the Nuapada Railway Station?