

**Increasing incidents of thefts in trains**

1585. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the increasing incidents of thefts in trains in recent days, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of thefts that took place during last two years;
- (c) the remedial measures taken/being taken by Railways in mitigating such incidents in future;
- (d) whether Railways are putting all the responsibilities on State Governments in this matter;
- (e) whether Railways have any plan for combating this menace, collectively, in collaboration with State Governments; and
- (f) the stand of Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railway has taken note of the increasing incidents of theft of passengers' belongings in trains. The details for the year 2014 and 2015 are as under:

| Year | Number of cases of theft of passengers' belongings in trains registered |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2014 | 12161                                                                   |
| 2015 | 16180                                                                   |

The reasons for increase in reporting/registration of cases of theft in trains are enhanced public awareness/facility created by the Railways by providing toll free Security Helpline Number, acceptance of complaints over E-Mail, Twitter, etc. including increase in the number of passengers travelling in trains.

(c) to (f) Prevention and detection of crime, registration of cases, its investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the States concerned.

The primary responsibility in mitigating incidents of crime lies with the State GRP. Railway Protection Force (RPF) is not empowered to register and investigate the passenger related offences in passenger area.

However, the following steps are taken by RPF for security of passengers and their belongings:

- (i) On vulnerable and identified routes/ sections, 2300 trains (on an average) are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
- (ii) An integrated Security System consisting of surveillance of vulnerable, stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, Access Control etc. have been sanctioned to improve surveillance mechanism over 202 railway stations.
- (iii) Security Helpline number 182 is made operational over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
- (iv) Regular drives are conducted against unauthorized passengers entering Railway premises/ trains by RPF under provisions of the Railways Act.
- (v) Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police/GRP authorities at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by GRP.

**Making railway infrastructure accessible to specially-abled people**

1586. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that railway stations and railway bogies are inaccessible to the specially-abled people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether steps have been taken by Railways to make railway infrastructure accessible to the specially-abled people, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of trains and railway stations presently having infrastructure to suit the needs of the specially-abled people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Improvement/augmentation of amenities at stations, including those for differently-abled passengers is a continuous process. In order to provide better accessibility to passengers with disabilities, short term facilities as detailed below have