

gate was undertaken by RDSO in association with IIT/Kanpur at one LC gate. Based on the report submitted, RDSO is now conducting extended field trials at 10 unmanned LC gates in association with IIT/Kanpur to check the efficacy of the system.

Based on the extended trial report, the adoption of the technologies shall be considered.

Officers working in Western Railway in same position

2989. MAHANT SHAMBUPRASADJI TUNDIYA:

SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data of officers working in Western Railway exceeding their sanctioned tenure in the same position; and

(b) the details thereof, division-wise including Ahmedabad division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Officers working on sensitive posts for longer than 3 to 4 years are transferred as per the prescribed transfer/rotation policy.

Dedicated force for security of passengers

2990. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR:

SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of security in railways, crimes like harassment of ladies and chain snatching in coaches during journeys are increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the details of incidents happened during the last three years;

(c) whether Government has any single security agency to check crimes in the trains which has proved quite effective;

(d) if not, whether Government has a plan to form a dedicated security force for the security of passengers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. At present, a three tier security system of Railway Protection Force (RPF), Government Railway Police (GRP) and District Police is prevailing over Indian Railways. Since law and order and policing are State subjects, the responsibilities of prevention and detection of crime against passengers, policing the Railways and maintenance of law and order are being discharged by the State Governments through their respective GRPs.

RPF has been constituted under the RPF Act, 1957 (as amended from time to time) for better protection and security of property, passengers, passenger area and matters connected therewith. RPF functions under the Ministry of Railways and supplements efforts of GRP, a wing of State Police, for strengthening of security over Indian Railways.

Security of Railway track, railway bridges and railway tunnels over Indian Railways is the responsibility of concerned District Police. Due to practical difficulties like co-ordination among GRPs, between GRP and RPF and among agencies responsible for security in Railways, the present system has not led to seamless policing across the Indian Railways.

(d) and (e) A proposal was initiated by the Ministry of Railways to amend the RPF Act in order to empower RPF to deal with passenger related offences in passenger area of railway premises. Most of the States have opposed the proposal for amendment in the RPF Act to empower RPF to deal with passenger related offences on the ground that it will adversely affect the principle of co-operative federalism. In addition, Ministry of Home Affairs has also expressed reservation on this proposal. Therefore, no subsequent action could be taken on the proposal.

CAG report on food served in Railways

2991. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG report suggests that the food served by Railways is not fit for human consumption, if so, reaction of the Ministry thereto;

(b) whether the Ministry is planning to do an internal survey and conduct test checks of food, the details thereof and if so, by when;

(c) whether the Ministry is planning to terminate the contract of present vendors and invite new vendors for the service; and