

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) As per instructions issued vide Railway Board's Commercial Circular No. 87/2001 and 32/2014, Railways supply newspaper to every passenger travelling by Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto trains. Zonal Railways, being the implementation authority, decide the type of newspaper of different languages to be supplied in these trains, taking into consideration the passengers' demand and ensuring that wide range of reputed daily newspapers in Hindi/English/Regional language in equal proportion are supplied to the passengers. As the cost of the newspapers is absorbed within the integrated fare structure of Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto Express trains, the cost of service of newspapers is borne by the Zonal Railways.

Restructuring of Divisional Headquarters of Railways

2999. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry plans to undertake restructuring of divisional headquarters of Railways based on changes in demography and practical considerations in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when this restructuring will be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) At present, there is no decision for restructuring of divisional headquarters of Railways.

(b) Question does not arise.

Incidents of hate crimes against passengers in trains

3000. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Railways are taking to stop the incidents of hate crimes against helpless passengers travelling in trains, particularly the members of minority communities;

(b) whether Railway Police is of no help to the passengers who are attacked and the role they are assigned in such cases;

(c) whether there is any plan for giving legal assistance to the victim passengers by Railways; and

(d) the compensation Railways are planning to provide to wounded and kin of murdered passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime viz. hate crimes etc. against passengers including the members of minority communities travelling in trains, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP in providing better protection and security of passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith. In each and every case of crime including hate crimes reported to police, action is taken as per extant legal provisions by the GRP/District Police of the concerned State.

(c) There is no plan for giving legal assistance to the victim passengers by the Railways.

(d) Compensation liability of Railway administration for death/injury of railway passengers in violent attacks (Untoward Incidents) is laid down in Section 124A of the Railways Act, 1989 read with Section 123 of the Railways Act, 1989. Admissibility of such compensation is decided by Railways Claims Tribunal (RCT) on the basis of a claim application filed before them. Railway administration is liable to pay compensation to rail passengers only when a decree is awarded by Hon'ble RCT in favour of the claimant and Railways decide to implement the decree. At present, the scale of compensation as specified in Railway Accident and Untoward Incidents (Compensation) Amendment Rules, 2016 is ₹ 08 lakh for death and ₹ 64,000/- to ₹ 08 lakh for injury depending upon the gravity of injury.

CAG report on working of Railways and its Catering

†3001. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adverse remarks have been made in the recent report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) on the working of Railways, especially its catering services, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the corrective steps Government proposes to take in the wake of remarks of the CAG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The points of deficiencies highlighted by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India in its Report No. 13 of 2017 laid in the House

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.