

election for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies was examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. The Committee in its 79th Report has given certain recommendations which are under examination of the Government.

**Supply of food by Railways on the pattern of airlines**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to supply food just like that is supplied in airlines, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a study has already been conducted on this front, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this service would come into reality alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to supply food in a manner as is supplied in airlines.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Vacant SC/ST posts in Railways**

†928. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the vacant posts belonging to SC/ST category in Railways; and

(b) the efforts being made by Government to fill up these vacant posts and by when these would be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The number of vacancies of Scheduled Castes (SC)/Scheduled Tribes (ST) against the sanctioned strength on Indian Railways in all Groups of services as on 30.11.2017 is 43203 (provisional).

(b) Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process through various modes of intake. The policy of the Railway administration is to fill up the vacancies as per the laid down procedure through Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs), Railway

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Recruitment Cells (RRCs), Staff Selection Commission (SSC) and Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). There is always a time-lag between occurrence of vacancies and processing the same for filling up, which involves notification of vacancies, holding examinations, finalizing of select panels and issue of appointment letters.

### **Incidents of crimes in trains**

†929. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that incidents of looting, murder and rape are repeatedly taking place in trains for the last two-three years;

(b) if so, whether Government would fix responsibility for this; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to ensure safe journey for the passengers in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, 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.

However, following steps are being taken by the Railways to provide security to passengers:

1. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, 2500 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.
2. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras, provided at about 394 stations over Indian Railways, to ensure safety and security of passengers.
3. Security Help Line number 182 is made operational over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
4. An Integrated Security System consisting of surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, Access Control etc. has been sanctioned to improve surveillance mechanism over 202 railway stations.

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