

Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP to provide better protection and security of passenger area and passengers. Cases of Indian Penal Code (IPC) crime including theft in trains are registered and investigated by the concerned Government Railway Police. Railways does not maintain any data on Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes. Whenever any information about status of crime on Railways is sought, State GRP is requested to provide the information.

Based on the data provided by the Government Railway Police Stations, a total of two cases of theft of passengers' belongings, one on 06.07.2018 and another on 14.07.2018, have been reported in reserved bogies of running trains on Delhi-Jammu route during the month of July-2018 (Upto 23rd July). The second case of theft of passengers' belongings was reported on 14.07.2018 in the Jammu Mail. In both cases, the complaint was lodged by male passenger.

(d) Action is taken on each and every case by the Government Railway Police as per legal provisions. In addition, whenever any staff of Railways or Railway Protection Force is found involved in such cases, severe departmental and legal action is taken against them. However, no staff of Railways and Railway Protection Force has been found involved in the above said two cases of theft of passengers' belongings reported in trains on Delhi-Jammu route in the month of July-2018 (upto 23rd July).

Delayed train services in Kerala

2042. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the inordinate delay of train services in Kerala since last few months;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Railways to normalise the train services; and
- (c) whether Railways have fixed any time-limit to complete the works on rail-tracks in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Additional block hours have been permitted to complete track repair, renewal, overhaul works and other safety related works in all divisions especially Thiruvananthapuram, Palakkad and Salem. These works led to excess speed restrictions from September 2017 resulting in late running of trains.

- (b) Steps taken to improve punctuality includes:-
- (i) Timings of certain Mail/Express trains has been rearranged and rationalized, which has improved punctuality of trains to some extent.
 - (ii) Shadow corridor blocks are being used to get optimum usage of corridor blocks to avoid repeated blocks.
 - (iii) Continuous efforts are taken to improve asset reliability to reduce failures to bare minimum level, so that detentions to trains are minimized.
- (c) 357.52 Kms track renewal sanction is available in Kerala State. Out of this, 202.07 Kms has been planned for current financial year 2018-19.

Construction of Nanjakode-Nilamboor railway line

2043. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to take up the construction of Nanjakode-Nilamboor railway line;
- (b) if so, the steps taken therefor, so far; and
- (c) whether Government has received the consent of Forest department to use their land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Construction of Nilambur-Nanjangud line has been included in Capital Investment Programme 2016-17. However, Government of Kerala has not identified this project to be taken up through the State Joint Venture Company.

- (c) No, Sir.

Deaths and injuries due to rail accidents

2044. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people who have lost their lives and injured in railway accidents since 2010, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware that there has been a sharp increase in deaths and injuries as a result of railway accidents;