

*252. [*The questioner was absent.*]

**Instructions to take safety measures on spotting
crowd near railway tracks**

*252. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have come out with a set of fresh instructions for train drivers, gatemen, patrolling staff, guards, etc., to take appropriate safety measures on spotting a crowd or events related to festivals near railway tracks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are general as well as subsidiary rules that have fixed the responsibilities of every railway staff, including loco pilots, guards, switchmen, patrolling man, gangman, etc., and these rules are in place since 1890; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The railway area adjacent to track is duly demarcated and no gathering of people is allowed within this area near the railway track for conducting festivals and celebrations. The right to move on railway track is that of trains. However, instructions have been issued to Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories to take necessary precautions in co-ordination with Railway Administration and give prior information before holding of big events like Mela, Rally and gathering etc.

(c) and (d) Indian Railways (Open Lines) General Rules, 1976 have been framed under Clause (g) of sub-section (2) of section 60 read with section 198 of the Railways Act, 1989 (24 of 1989). The provision contained in Indian Railways (Open Line) General Rules, 1976 primarily lay down duties of Railways staff connected with train operations. The responsibility of ensuring proper crowd control and law and order near railway tracks lies with local district administration and State police. Generally, in such cases, intimation from local police/administration is expected to be given to Railways based on which caution/speed restrictions are imposed and Loco Pilots are issued Caution Order.