

**Stoppage of Netravati Express and Tejas Express at
Kankavali railway station**

†109. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received requests for stoppage of Netravati Express and Tejas Express at Kankavali Railway Station in Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg Konkan region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government on the above requests and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Demands, including that from the Hon' ble Member of Parliament, have been received for provision of additional stoppages of 16345/16346 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Thiruvananthapuram Netravati Express (Daily) and 22119/22120 Mumbai CSMT-Karmali Tejas Express (Tri-weekly) at Kankavali. These demands have been examined, but have not been found operationally feasible, at present.

Safety of female passengers in trains

†110. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures being taken by Government for safety of female passengers travelling in trains;
- (b) the number of trains wherein coaches have been fitted with cameras from security point of view and the number of trains left uncovered, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that Railways are also installing panic button in ladies' coaches, if so, by when all the ladies' coaches would have such an arrangement in place, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) 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 to provide better protection and security of passenger area and passengers. Cases of Indian Penal Code (IPC) crime in Railways are registered and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

investigated by the concerned Government Railway Police. However, following measures are being taken by the Railways in coordination with Government Railway Police to ensure security of passengers including women 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. Security Help Line Number 182 is made operational over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
3. Through various social media platforms viz. twitter, facebook etc., Railways are in regular touch with passengers including women to enhance security of passengers and to address their security concern.
4. Drives are conducted against entry of male passengers into compartments reserved for women passengers and persons apprehended are prosecuted as per law.
5. Ladies Special trains running in Metropolitan cities are being escorted by lady RPF personnel. In other trains, where escorts are provided, the train escorting parties have been briefed to keep extra vigil on the lady passengers travelling alone, ladies coaches en-route and at halting stations.
6. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras, provided at about 453 stations over Indian Railways, to ensure safety and security of passengers.
7. An Integrated Security System (ISS) 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.
8. All Railway Stations and passenger carrying trains are planned to be progressively provided with CCTV based surveillance system.
9. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address System to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.
10. Regular coordination is made with the State Police/GRP authorities at all levels for prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains.
11. In order to increase representation of women in RPF to the level of 10%, 4517 out of 9739 vacancies notified in the year 2018 were reserved for women.

(b) CCTV cameras have been fitted in around 1300 coaches of 100 Mainline passenger trains. Balance Mainline passenger trains are presently not fitted with CCTV cameras. For left over coaches of passenger trains, work for the existing running (58276 nos.) is sanctioned. In phase-I, 7020 coaches (4620 coaches of premium trains and 2400 coaches of EMUs in Suburban area of Mumbai area) are planned to be equipped with CCTV System. For this, Request For Proposal (RFP) is floated and due for open on 22.07.2019 by RailTel, a PSU of Ministry of Railways. In next phases, Indian Railways has planned to extend CCTV based Video Surveillance System in all the balance running Passenger Trains' coaches.

(c) Emergency Talk Back system has been provided in all coaches of Air conditioned EMU rakes and Air conditioned rakes of Kolkata Metro. This system is being provided in all newly manufactured air-conditioned EMU rakes, underslung MEMU rakes and ladies compartment of non-AC EMU rakes. Western Railway has already provided Emergency Talk Back system in 8 ladies coaches of existing three phase EMU rakes. Further, this system will be provided in remaining ladies compartments of existing three phase EMU rakes in a phased manner.

Railway zonal offices in Jharkhand

†111. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of total Railway Zonal offices located in Jharkhand;
- (b) whether it is a fact that location of various zonal offices in such a small region causes inconvenience in construction, operation, providing passenger amenities, grievance redressal etc.;
- (c) if so, whether Government would consider creating a single Railway Zone for Jharkhand by merging the Railway Boards of Ranchi, Dhanbad, Adra etc.; and
- (d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) There is no Railway Zonal headquarter office located at Jharkhand.

(b) to (d) Railway Zones on Indian Railways are set up keeping in view factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other administrative/operational requirements, consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency, and not on the State/

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