

track the location and speed of RTIS enabled locomotives/trains more closely, without any manual intervention, facilitating the train control functions.

The RTIS project is being executed by Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS), which is an Information Technology arm of Ministry of Railways, in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The installation of RTIS device in 2649 passenger and goods train locomotives has been completed till 20.11.2019.

#### **Lives lost on suburban trains in Mumbai**

1412. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 100 train passengers have lost their lives during the last five months while travelling in suburban trains in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details of the action railway authorities are considering to take to ensure the safety of local train passengers; and

(c) the statistical data regarding the scheduled passenger capacity of the coaches and the number of daily passengers?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) No casualties have been reported in consequential train accidents during the period from June, 2019 to October, 2019 over Mumbai suburban railway system. However, as per the information received from Government Railway Police/Mumbai, 262 passengers have lost their lives while travelling in Mumbai suburban trains due to various reasons such as trespassing, murder, illness etc. Railways have constituted an interdepartmental 'Joint Committee' comprising officers of Safety, Security, Signal and Engineering departments across all Zonal Railways to study the causes and suggest specific measures to minimise deaths due to untoward incidents including trespassing. Accordingly, preventive and corrective measures are taken to improve and create infrastructure to minimise casualties. The following measures including infrastructural measures in Mumbai suburban railway system are being taken by the Railways to save the lives of commuters:-

(i) The centre grab poles which are slippery are replaced by knurling type grab pole in Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP) Phase I and II rakes for

better grip in order to prevent incidents of falling of passengers from local trains.

- (ii) 10 fully air conditioned Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) rakes comprising 120 AC coaches. 10 under-slung air conditioned EMU rakes comprising of 120 AC coaches and 14 partially conditioned EMU rakes comprising 42 AC coaches are to be inducted in Central Railway and Western Railway in addition to 3 fully air conditioned EMU rakes already working in Western Railway. Further, it is planned to induct 47 fully air conditioned EMU rakes comprising 564 AC coaches under MUTP-III and 191 fully air conditioned EMU rakes comprising 2292 AC coaches under MUTP-IIIA by Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation Ltd. All the fully air conditioned EMU rakes shall have the feature of automatic opening and closing of doors for safety of passengers.
- (iii) It has been decided to provide Passenger Protection Information System (Blue Light System) on doors of local train to alert passengers not to board when train is about to start, on Central Railway and Western Railway.
- (iv) Erection of boundary wall/fencing at identified locations, vulnerable to trespass.
- (v) Regular announcements are made through Passenger Address System at Railway stations urging passengers to use foot over bridges (FOBs) and to avoid crossing of railway tracks.
- (vi) Various awareness campaigns are organized by Railways to sensitize passengers about the fatalities of crossing railway tracks, foot-board/ roof-top travelling, boarding/de-boarding running trains etc.
- (vii) Warning sign boards are provided at conspicuous places for the awareness of passengers.
- (viii) Regular drives are conducted against trespassing, travelling on footboard, steps, rooftop of trains, boarding/de-boarding running trains and the persons apprehended are prosecuted under the relevant provisions of the Railways Act, 1989.

(c) The passenger capacity of 12 car rake is 5716 in Super Dense Crush Load (SDCL) condition. The number of daily passengers on suburban Railway of Mumbai during the year 2018-19, has been 7.93 million.

**Complaints about unhygienic food in Railways**

1413. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that large number of complaints about unhygienic food being served in Railways keep pouring in;

(b) if so, the details of action being taken to improve hygiene of food and cleanliness of kitchen/pantry; and

(c) if no action is being taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) It is the continuous endeavour of Indian Railways to provide quality and hygienic food to passengers along with maintaining cleanliness in base kitchens and pantry Cars. To ensure this hygiene and cleanliness of base kitchens/pantry cars, following measures have been taken by Railways:—

- (i) IRCTC has upgraded 46 Kitchen Units in the last two years. To ensure centralized monitoring of the kitchen activities, CCTVs have been installed in 39 Kitchen Units. Sharing of live streaming of the Kitchen Units through website of IRCTC has been made operational.
- (ii) To ensure compliance of Food Safety Norms, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) certification from Designated Food Safety Officers of each catering unit has been made mandatory. Food Safety Supervisors have been deployed at Kitchen Units to monitor food safety and hygienic practices. Food samples collected by Food Safety Officers/ Supervisors are sent to the nominated accredited Laboratories under Food Safety and Standard Act for analysis and testing. Penalties are imposed in cases of detection of unsatisfactory food samples.
- (iii) Examination of hygiene and cleanliness in Pantry Cars and Kitchen Units is done through Third Party Audit. Customer satisfaction survey is also conducted through Third Party Agencies.