

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 267
ANSWERED ON 19.03.2021

MANPOWER STRENGTH OF RPF AND GRP IN ODISHA

267. SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the strength and infrastructure of Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been increased/strengthened during the last several years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any plan to enhance the manpower strength of Government Railway Police (GRP), Odisha vis-a-vis R.P.F. in Odisha, for a better and qualitative service;
- (d) whether Government is aware of the allotment of unsuitable and dilapidated residential quarters to the GRP staff; and
- (e) if so, whether there is any proposal for allotment of suitable accommodation to GRP staff like RPF staff by the Railway authorities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 267 BY SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 19.03.2021 REGARDING MANPOWER STRENGTH OF RPF AND GRP IN ODISHA

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The Strength and Infrastructure of Railway Protection Force (RPF) has improved during the last several years. 6046 new posts have been sanctioned in RPF since 2006. Surveillance is kept through Close Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras, provided at about 674 stations and 2931 coaches over Indian Railways to ensure safety and security of passengers. Rail Madad app and integrated Help Line 139 is operational over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress. 279 Sniffer dogs have been provided for conducting continuous security checks at railway stations & trains. Security equipments like Baggage scanners, Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMD) among others are being used for screening passengers and their baggage. Station Security Plan is being implemented at major railway stations in phased manner for better access control and seamless deployment of security agencies. Cyber Cells has been setup for enhancing the digital investigative techniques of RPF. CORAS (Commando for Railway Security) battalion has been set up for security of sensitive railway stations and sections.

(c) : As per extant provisions, liability of sharing of 50% cost on the part of railways with States on GRPs is restricted to the posts created with due concurrence and approvals at the Zonal level with sanction of Railway Board. At present, no proposal for creation of GRP posts in Odisha is pending with Ministry of Railways (Railway Board).

(d) and (e): As per the extant provisions, the responsibility of providing quarters to the GRP personnel primarily rests with the State Governments. Land wherever sparable, may be leased to them for the specific purpose of construction of quarters for GRP. Land to be leased should be based on minimum requirement consistent with the need for quarters and should preferably be located on the periphery of the railway boundary. Construction of quarters for GRP on the land so leased is to be done by State Governments out of their own funds. It should be enjoined on State Governments that they construct the quarters within a specified time span failing which the land will revert back to the Railways.

It is, therefore, clear that Railway does not bear responsibility of providing residential quarters to GRP. The allotment of suitable Railway quarters to GRP personnel is the responsibility of State Government. Railway, on the request of State Govts, may consider providing sparable Railway Land on lease to State Govt for the above purpose.
