

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1400
ANSWERED ON 30.07.2021

FIRE INCIDENTS IN RAILWAYS

1400 # SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that some of the fire incidents in different regional railways involving loss of life and property have taken place due to smoking or carrying inflammable substances in the train;
- (b) if so, whether Government has formulated any guidelines to prevent such accidents; and
- (c) if not, whether Government is planning to consider the issue?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) Available data for the period from 01.04.2018 to 30.06.2021 indicate occurrence of incidents of fire due to smoking or carrying of inflammable substances in coaches resulting in loss of property.
- (b) & (c) Provisions in the Railways Act, 1989 prohibit smoking and carrying of dangerous goods in Railway compartments. The Cigarettes and other Tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 issued by ministry of Health and Family Welfare prohibits smoking in public places. Above provisions have also been circulated to all Zonal Railways for Compliance. Further On-board ticket checking staff have been instructed to ensure that whenever inflammable and dangerous / prohibited goods are detected, the station staff should be intimated for necessary action. Fire Notices / Fire posters have been displayed in all coaches to inform, caution and alert passengers regarding various Dos and Don'ts to prevent fire, not to carry any inflammable material, explosives or smoke inside the coaches and penalties etc.