

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 56
ANSWERED ON 07.02.2025

SAFETY AND SECURITY OF WOMEN IN TRAINS

*56 SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV MANDADI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken by Government to ensure safety and security of women travelling in trains across the country;
- (b) whether Government has utilized Nirbhaya Funds for the purpose of ensuring safety and security of women in trains; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.56 BY SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV MANDADI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 07.02.2025 REGARDING SAFETY AND SECURITY OF WOMEN IN TRAINS.

(a) to (c) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, therefore, State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and maintenance of law and order on Railways through their law enforcement agencies viz. Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP/District Police to provide better protection and security to railway property, passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith.

The following steps are being taken by the Railways in coordination with GRP/Local Police for safety and security of passengers including women passengers in trains and at railway stations:-

- i. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.
- ii. Zonal railways have been instructed for deployment of proper combined strength of male & female RPF/RPSF personnel in train escort parties, to the extent possible.
- iii. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address System to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.
- iv. Railway Help Line number 139 (integrated with Emergency Response Support System No. 112) is operational (24x7) over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
- v. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras provided in number of coaches and railway stations for enhanced security of passengers.
- vi. Railways are in regular touch with passengers through various social media platforms like. Twitter, Facebook, etc. to enhance security of passengers and to address their security concerns.
- vii. 'Meri Saheli' initiative has been launched with an objective to provide enhanced safety and security to lady passengers travelling alone in long distance trains for their entire journey i.e. from the originating station to destination station. Dedicated teams of lady RPF personnel have been formed for its implementation. Presently, approximately 250 RPF teams are being deployed for this purpose covering approximately 500 trains on an average daily over the Indian Railways network. During the year 2023 & 2024, on an average 13,000 such passengers were covered under this initiative daily.

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- viii. Drives are conducted to restrict entry of male passengers into the compartments reserved for ladies.
- ix. State Level Security Committee of Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/Commissioner of States/Union Territories for regular monitoring and review of security arrangements of the Railways.
- x. The present strength of women personnel in RPF is 9.5 percent which is highest amongst the CAPFs in India. These women RPF personnel have been specially trained to ensure safety and to provide assistance to female passengers.
- xi. A reservation quota of six berths in sleeper class in long distance Mail/Express trains and a reservation quota of six berths in 3AC class of Garib Rath Rajdhani/Duronto/fully air-conditioned Express trains for female passengers irrespective of their age travelling alone or in a group of female passengers.
- xii. A combined reservation quota of six to seven lower berths per coach in Sleeper class, four to five lower berths per coach each in Air Conditioned 3 tier (3AC) and three to four lower berths per coach in Air Conditioned 2 tier (2AC) classes (depending on the number of coaches of that class in the train) has been earmarked for senior citizens, female passengers 45 years of age and above and pregnant women.
- xiii. Second class accommodation for women in the second Class-cum-Luggage-cum Guard's Coach (SLR) in most of the long distance Mail/Express trains.
- xiv. Exclusive unreserved coaches/compartments for female passengers in EMU (Electrical Multiple Unit)/DMU (Diesel Multiple Unit)/MMTS(Multi Modal Transport System) trains & local passenger trains depending upon demand pattern as well as availability of accommodation.
- xv. Running of ladies special EMU/MEMU/MMTS services on the suburban sections of Mumbai, Kolkata, Secunderabad and Chennai as well as on the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) sections.

Till December 2024, Rs. 298.4 Cr. have been spent under Nirbhaya fund for improving safety and security of women in trains.
