



दक्षिणरेलवे/SOUTHERN RAILWAY
चेन्नैमंडल/CHENNAI DIVISION

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प्रेसविज्ञप्ति / PRESS RELEASE

STONE PELTING IN TRAIN A CRIMINAL OFFENCE

Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Chennai Division has intensified its awareness campaign against stone pelting on trains. A few incidents of pelting stones at Express and EMU trains in a few sections over Chennai Division have been reported recently between Chennai - Arakkonam and Chennai - Gummudipundi. Railway Protection Force and GRP personnel are keeping a vigil in such areas.

Pelting stones on trains is a criminal offence under sections 153 & 154 prescribed in Railway Act. Any person, committing any unlawful act or by any willful omission or neglect, endangers or causes to be endangered the safety of any person travelling on or being upon any railway, or obstructs or causes to be obstructed or attempts to obstruct any rolling stock upon any railway, he/she shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years under the section - 153 of Railway Act 1989.

Apart from stepping up vigil, the aim is to counsel them about the consequences of stone pelting on trains and its repercussions on passenger safety. Posters, pamphlets and other publicity literature have been distributed to the public and passengers to make them aware about the perils of stone pelting. RPF deployment has been done in sections where such incidents take place to ensure safe passage of trains. Reasons for stone pelting has been identified as children playing alongside the railway track throwing stones, unauthorized encroachment or vandalism. A total of 72 incidents of stone pelting have been reported over Chennai Division in the last one year and RPF is doing surprise checks at vulnerable locations and has been successful in prosecuting 18 offenders.

Chennai Divisional Railway Manager, Shri Ganesh has appealed to the general public and passengers to inform us on the toll-free helpline number (139) if they come across incidents such as trespassing and stone pelting. Railway property is public property and protection of public property is everybody's responsibility.

Sd/-

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