



Thursday, February 22,
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Method to stop train in case of fire

Rahul Das
Tribune News Service
Ambala, February 21.

Innovator Prem Singh Saini has come out with a method for stopping a train in case of a fire. Talking to Chandigarh Tribune telephonically from Ahmedabad, he said the technique was simple and could be installed in trains without any problem. He said he had suggested the method to Railways officials in 2000. Prem Singh Saini was recently honoured by President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam on behalf of the NIF. He has also won the Asian Innovation Award-2006 of the Wall Street Journal for his innovation "high power line distribution system". Eight of his innovations have been submitted for patenting, while 20 more technological advancements are likely to be submitted for patenting soon.

Saini said when he submitted the proposal on fire control to the Railways, he was informed that the Railway Safety Board was working on some such projects. "We need to use the resources at our disposal for developing the system which can save lives of the passengers," he said. He wondered as to why the railway authorities had not yet effectively implemented the firefighting system although around seven years have elapsed since the start of initial work. "Passenger safety should be accorded the top priority," he said.

Prem Singh Saini hails from Pasiala Ambala and is currently based at the Ahmedabad. He said the proposed system would be effective in bringing to halt the train in case of a fire. "It has been noticed that the train driver and the guard come to know about the fire late. This system will warn the driver as soon as a fire breaks out. Moreover, brakes will be automatically applied in case of a fire," he said. He said fire sensors could be put in compartments. These would not only give a warning signal to the driver, but could also be used to set off the firefighting measures. "Pipes having equidistant holes can be installed in the coaches. Water from the overhead water tanks can be released through the pipes. It will help in dousing the flames," he said. Saini is credited with developing a device for stopping a car's engine using a mobile phone. The car owner can switch off the engine of the car using the mobile phone in case the car is stolen.

Another system developed by Saini aims to ensure that no aircraft can collide with a building of strategic importance. In this system, there are two circuits. While one circuit is put on the building, the other is fitted in the aeroplane. The system detects the aeroplane and it does not allow the plane to lower height when close to the building. This ensures that the plane flies over the building.

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