

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:54
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
RAIL SAFETY REPORT GATHERING DUST
BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH;RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the press report in the Times of India dated October 3, 2002 under the heading 'Rail safety report gathering dust';
- (b) if so, whether the second volume of the Justice Khanna Railway Safety Review Committee report submitted in February 2001 providing a long-term perspective on safe rail travel has not been accepted by the Railways;
- (c) if so, the main reasons for the same;
- (d) the time by which recommendations of this report will be implemented;
- (e) whether the Government have taken any action on the Commissioner of Railway Safety inquiry reports so to make its reports transparent; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (f) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.54 BY BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH AND SHRI RAMJI MANJHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 21-11-2002 REGARDING 'RAIL SAFETY REPORT GATHERING DUST'.

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): 83 recommendations made in Part-II of the Report of Railway Safety Review Committee-98 (Khanna Committee) have been accepted fully or partially by the Ministry of Railways. 36 recommendations made in the report are under scrutiny and 9 recommendations have not been accepted.

(d) : The accepted recommendations are being implemented progressively, depending upon the availability of resources and success of trials, in some cases.

(e) & (f): No, Sir. The accident inquiries conducted by the Commissioners of Railway Safety and the inquiry reports are confidential and not to be produced or cited in a Court of Law. Recommendation in regard to the publication of a particular accident inquiry report of the Commission of Railway Safety is made by Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety. As per the extant rules, the final decision, regarding publication, or otherwise, of a report lies with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, which has administrative control over the Commission of Railway Safety.