

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1766
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2002
BLAST IN BASANPALLI RAILWAY STATION
SAMUDRALA VENUGOPAL CHARY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a newly constructed railway station was blasted by Naxalities of the banned People's War Group at Basanpalli in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the value of railway property damaged in the blast; and
- (d) the preventive measures taken by the Government to stop such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

a) Yes, Sir.

b) On the night of 26.12.2001, some activists of PWG blasted one room of a building which was under construction for the Railway Station at Basanpalli causing damage to signaling equipment, etc. In this connection, a case has been registered by the local Police/Chinnakothapalli in their station Cr. No. 87/2001 u/s 427, 436 & 448 IPC, r/w 3 & 5 of Explosive Substance Act, Section 3 & 4 of Prevention of Damage to Public Property (PDPP) Act and section 8(1) of Andhra Pradesh Public Security Act. The case is under investigation.

c) Rs. 8 lakhs approximately.

d) Maintenance of Law and Order is a State Subject and hence the responsibility to prevent such incidents lies with the State Governments. However, the Railways on their part, have deployed armed pickets at vulnerable stations to supplement the efforts of the State Government.