

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4864
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000
SAFETY DEVICE IN AC COMPARTMENTS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the railway workshops and RDSO have not been able to design safety devices for Air Conditioned compartments in time of accidents, collisions and other mishaps;
- (b) if so, whether the research and technical staff of the railways have not the requisite knowledge or motivation to come up with the requisite safety designs;
- (c) if so, whether railways have considered any out-house agency to come up with a safety design and devices for AC compartments at the time of accidents;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to install safety devices in AC compartments?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4864 BY P UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.08.2000 REGARDING SAFETY DEVICE COMPARTMENTS

(a) Railway coaches including air-conditioned coaches are designed to international (UIC) safety standards with anti-telescopic features and destruction zones at the two ends to provide safety to railway passengers in event of accidents and collisions.

(b) Staff employed in Railway's research and technical units are fully competent and motivated. As a result of sustained research made by the Railways, several new designs of coaches like AC-2 tier, AC-3 tier, double deckers, Rajdhani and Shatabdi coaches, Swarna Shatabdi coaches etc. and also new features like high tensile coupling, modern UIC vestibules, air brakes, roof mounted AC units, 110 Volts lighting system etc. have been developed over the years.

(c) to (e) Research, Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) located at Lucknow is a well equipped and self-sufficient research unit of Indian Railways. However, for complete upgradation of coach manufacturing technology, Railways have entered into a transfer of technology-cum-supply contract with M/s Alstom LHB, Germany. The salient features for improved safety which will be installed in future coaches, including AC coaches, manufactured to the new design, are enumerated below:

- (i) Anti-telescopic stainless steel bodies.
- (ii) Anti-climbing feature with centre buffer couplings to avoid piling up of coaches in event of accidents.
- (iii) State-of-the-Art bogie and suspension which has potential to run at speeds upto 200 kmph with superior riding quality.
- (iv) Fire retardant upholstery and furnishings.
- (v) Modern Disc type, microprocessor controlled brake system..
- (vi) Emergency opening windows.
- (vii) Improved passenger alarm system.

