

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:265
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001
TRAIN ACCIDENT
DUMPA MARY VIJAYAKUMARI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether despite many recommendations from inquiry committees at different times, accident rate in the Railways has not come down;
- (b) whether several accidents took place on account of fault by Railway staff; and
- (c) if so, the action taken against the errant staff during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.265 BY SHRIMATI M. VIJAYA KUMARI TO BE ANSWERED ON 09-08-2001 REGARDING TRAIN ACCIDENT

(a): The universally accepted index of train accidents is number of accidents per million train kilometres. The index which stood at 5.5 in 1960-61 has come down to 0.57 per million train kilometres during the year 1996-97. The index stabilised at this level for the years 1997-98 and 1998-99. The continuous reduction in number of train accidents as also the incidence of train accidents per million train kilometres is indicative of sustained improvement in safety performance. However, there has been a marginal increase in this index for the year 1999- 2000 when it was 0.65.

The reduction in the above index is partly due to various steps taken as per recommendations of Inquiry Committees. These steps mainly include track circuiting, modification of signalling circuiting, provision of walkie- talkie sets for improved communication, provision of LED based flashing lamps, mechanisation of track maintenance, testing of rails by Ultrasonic Flaw Detectors etc.

(b): Yes, Sir. During the last 3 years, the number of accidents due to fault by railway staff has been as under:-

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Accidents due to fault by railway staff	262	268	287
Total Number of Accidents	396	397	463
Percentage	66.16	67.50	61.98

(c): During this 3 year period, action against 1328 staff were taken under Discipline and Appeal Rules including dismissal/removal of 113 staff. However, figures given above may not necessarily pertain to these 3 years alone and also include accident cases of earlier years since action taken against the staff held responsible is a continuous and ongoing process.