

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1696
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
TRAIN ACCIDENTS IN MUMBAI SUBURBAN AREA
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of train accidents took place in Mumbai during the last one year;
- (b) whether average nine fatal train accidents take place daily in Mumbai sub-urban railways;
- (c) if so, the main accident prone area in Mumbai;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to avoid such accidents;
- (e) whether some special budget has been provided to control such accidents in Mumbai Sub-urban railway; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1696 ASKED BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02.08.2001 REGARDING TRAIN ACCIDENTS IN MUMBAI SUB-URBAN AREA

- (a): During the last one year, there were 5 consequential train accidents in Mumbai Sub-urban area.
- (b): No, Sir.
- (c): Does not arise.
- (d): The important steps being taken to check accidents in future are given below :-
 - i) Walkie-talkie sets have been provided to Drivers and Guards of all trains for faster and better means of communication.
 - ii) Drivers and Guards are also being progressively provided with LED based electronic flashing lamps which have better visibility than the conventional kerosene lit hand signal lamps.
 - iii) There has been progressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance. Also, Track Renewal Trains are being used.
 - iv) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cars and portable accelerometers are being used progressively.
 - v) For detection of rail fractures/weld failures, adequate double rail Ultrasonic Flaw detectors have been procured. Now Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing Cars are being procured.
 - vi) Maintenance facilities for coaches and wagons have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.
 - vii) Routine Over Hauling Depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for detection of flaws in the axles so as to prevent cases of cold breakage of axles.
 - viii) Periodical Safety Audit of Different Divisions by inter-disciplinary teams from Zonal Headquarters has been introduced.
 - ix) Training facilities for drivers, guards and staff connected with train operation have been modernised including use of Simulators for training of drivers.
 - x) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training courses also.

xi) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff and road users.

xii) Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/removal from service is being imposed on officials causing serious accidents.

(e) & (f) : No, Sir. No special provision is made in the Budget to control accidents in Mumbai Sub-urban railway.