

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1774
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2004
RIOTS IN GUJARAT
Karunakaran Shri P.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of India or any other authorized agency has enquired about the Godhra train attack incidents and the riots in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the number of persons died/injured in Godhra incident and Gujarat riots;
- (d) the amount of loss incurred to Government/private properties in such incidents/riots; and
- (e) the details of relief measures taken by the Government for the victims?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) & (b): The Government of Gujarat has appointed a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice G.T. Nanavati, retired Judge of Supreme Court under the provisions of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 to enquire into the incident of fire in some coaches of the Sabarmati Express train near Godhra Railway Station on 27th February, 2002 and subsequent incidents of large scale violence in the State. The work of the Commission is continuing and the present term of the Commission is upto 1.11.2004.

The Minister of Railways has also recently ordered a Departmental inquiry into the Godhra fire incident on 27.2.2002.

(c) to (e): As per available information, 963 persons were killed in the Godhra incident and subsequent riots that followed in the State including 59 persons who were killed in the Godhra train carnage on 27.2.2002. Around 2500 persons are reported to have been injured. It is estimated that property worth Rs. 687 crore was destroyed/ damaged in the violence. The Prime Minister sanctioned a Rs. 150 crore Package for the rehabilitation of the riot victims in Gujarat for reconstruction and repair of damaged houses and shops, to provide assistance to the self-employed categories who lost their earning assets, financial support for recommencing business, commercial and industrial activities, revival of educational, medical and other institutions in the affected areas and specific programmes to benefit widows and children etc. A sum of Rs. 149.22 crores has been released to the State Government and the State Government has informed that an amount of Rs. 131.94 crores has been spent so far.