GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1364 ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006 COMPENSATION TO MUMBAI TRAIN BOMB BLASTS VICTIMS Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways had made any announcement for giving compensation to the victims of Mumbai train bomb blast;

(b) if so, whether the compensation as announced by the Railways has been disbursed to the victims and their families;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor along with the number of persons who have not been received any compensation so far; and

(e) the steps taken by the Railways for disbursement of compensation to them?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

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

Total 1054 1032

12.265 22

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1364 BY SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA AND SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 30.11.2006 REGARDING COMPENSATION TO MUMBAI TRAIN BOMB BLASTS VICTIMS.

(a): Provision already exists in the Railways Act 1989 for Railways to pay compensation to passengers who become victims of train accidents or other untoward incidents such as bomb blasts. Maximum amount payable as compensation is as follows:

Death: Rs 4 lakhs Injury: Rs 32,000/- to Rs 4 lakhs (depending upon the gravity of injury)

(b) to (d): Compensation is paid only after a decree is awarded on a claim filed in the Railway Claims Tribunal by the victims or by dependents of the deceased passengers. Upto 23.11.2006, 272 compensation claims have been filed. No claim has so far been decreed by the Tribunal. However, Railways have disbursed ex-gratia at enhanced rates, the details of which are as follows:-

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Classification No. of No. of Rate of Amount paid No. of Reason for
cases cases in ex-gratia (Rs. in case delay
which ex- crores) pending
gratia
paid
Death 187 186 Rs.5 lakhs 9.30 1 Body
unidentified
Grievous 540 531 Rs.50,000/- 2.65 9 Addresses of
injury the
injured
not available.
Simple 327 315 Rs.10,000/- 0.315 12 -do-
injury
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(e): Following steps have been taken by the Railway to ensure expeditious settlement of claims:-

i) Claims application forms have been distributed to the claimants and necessary assistance is being provided for filing claims in Railway Claims Tribunal.

ii) Booths for giving guidance to the claimants were opened at several stations like Borivili, Matunga Road, Mahim, Jogeshwari etc.

iii) A Special Bench has been set up at Mumbai to deal exclusively with compensation cases of Mumbai serial bomb blasts.

(iv) Railways have been advised to ensure that cheques are issued and dispatched to the claimants within a period of 15 days of the receipt of decree.