

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:676  
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006  
TERRORISTS ATTACK ON TRAIN  
Yadav Dr. Kunwar Devendra Singh

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a train at Koneru railway station was attacked by the terrorists as reported in the `Rashtriya Sahara` dated December 26, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details of the incident;
- (c) the loss of lives and property therein;
- (d) whether the Railways have taken any special steps to make arrangement for the security of trains and to prevent the occurrence of such incidents; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. On 25.12.2005 at about 12.08 hours, about 20 to 25 Left wing extremists of Peoples` War Group suspected to be of Srikakulam Division of Andhra Pradesh -Orissa Border Special Zone Committee of CPI (Maoist) attacked the Railway Protection Force (RPF) Cash Escorting party of Waltair Division in train No.471 (Vijayawada-Rayagada) Passenger at Koneru Railway Station in Vijayanagram District of Andhra Pradesh. The above RPF Cash Escorting party was detailed for escorting of Railway cash meant for disbursal of salaries of Railway employee at different Railway stations in between Rayagada Railway Station (RGDA) to Parvatipuram (PVP) Railway Station of Waltair Division.

(c) Four (4) Railway Protection Force personnel were killed and Railway cash worth Rs.7,47,600/-, seven .303 Service Rifles with 180 rounds and one .38 Revolver with 30 rounds issued to Railway Protection Force personnel were looted by the extremists.

(d) & (e) `Policing` being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police. Security of stations, trains, passengers and railway staff have been stepped up in consultation with Civil and Police Administration. Salary disbursement through cheques is being made in Naxalite infested sections to avoid such incidents in future. Security arrangements of RPF Armories in affected section have been reviewed and adequate measures have been taken for the security of the arms and ammunition kept in armories. RPF is also being modernized by equipping them with Bullet proof jackets/helmets, dragon search lights etc. Professional skill of RPF staff is being upgraded by imparting appropriate training and system of sharing of Intelligence with Civil Police and Intelligence authorities is also being strengthened.