

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:526
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
SAFETY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE RAILWAYS
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have taken firm measures to step up the safety of passengers in the light of increasing number of accidents and terror attacks;
- (b) if so, whether the Railways has also claimed that it has taken all possible steps like timely replacement of over aged assets, adoption of suitable technology for upgradation and maintenance of track rolling stock and inter-linking system; and
- (c) if so, the details of the measures taken for safety of Railways and to what extent it has been helpful?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.526 BY SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 28.02.2008 REGARDING SAFETY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE RAILWAYS.

(a): Yes, Sir. All possible steps are undertaken on a continuing basis for safety of passengers.

(b) & (c): In order to prevent accidents, various measures have been taken up which include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for up-gradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Most of the asset renewal works sanctioned under Special Railway Safety Fund have been completed and sufficient appropriation is being made to Depreciation Reserve Fund for renewal of assets on accrual basis. As a result, there has been a declining trend in the number of consequential train accidents from 473 in 2000-01 to 234 in 2005-06 and further to 195 in 2006-07. Further, measures taken to beef up security arrangements include installation of close circuit televisions at selected railway stations, progressive use of modern security gadgets to strengthen access control at entry/exit points, provision of dog squads at various Divisions and railway stations to conduct anti-sabotage checks, intensive publicity and public awareness campaigns and frequent announcements at stations alerting the passengers to remain vigilant against any unidentified/unclaimed/ suspicious objects lying on railway premises or coaches as also suspicious movement of co-passengers and report to RPF/GRP/nearby railway officials, and close coordination with Government Railway Police/State Police/Central Intelligence Agencies.