

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:920

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2010

DERAILMENT OF JNANESHWARI EXPRESS TRAIN

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Panda Shri Prabodh;Singh Shri Radha Mohan;Singh Smt. Meena;Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have ordered an inquiry into the Mumbai bound Howrah-Kurla Jnaneshwari Express Train crash in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the inquiry and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Railways in this regard;
- (c) the details of the casualties occurred due to the said incident;
- (d) whether the Railways had given adequate compensation to the kins of the dead and the injured passengers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of the measures taken by the Railways to fight out the Maoist menace?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.920 BY SHRI EKNATH M. GAIKWAD, SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH, SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH, SHRI B.B. PATIL, SHRI PRABODH PANDA, SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI, SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY AND PROF. (DR.) RANJAN PRASAD YADAV TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 29.07.2010 REGARDING DERAILMENT OF JNANESHWARI EXPRESS TRAIN.

(a) & (b): Statutory inquiry into the collision of Goods Train No.Down/N/SG/Paradeep with derailed coaches of Train Number 2102 Up (Howrah-Lokmanya Tilak Terminus) Jnaneshwari Express on 28-05-2010 between Khemasuli and Sardiha stations of Kharagpur-Tatanagar section of Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway is being conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Eastern Circle. Report of the Commission of Railway Safety is awaited. The criminal angle involved in the suspected sabotage leading to the above train accident is being investigated by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Report of CBI is also awaited. Necessary action will be taken on receipt of the Final Reports.

(c): In this accident, 150 persons lost their lives, 53 persons suffered grievous injuries and 112 persons sustained simple injuries.

(d) & (e): Ministry of Railways has announced an enhanced ex-gratia amount of Rs.5 lakh to the next of kin of each deceased, Rs.1 lakh to each grievously injured and Rs.50,000/- to each simple injured in the above accident. In addition, employment to one member of the family of the deceased has also been announced. Compensation shall be additionally payable to the next of kin of each deceased and injured passenger on the basis of claim filed by them in the Railway Claims Tribunal and decree passed by the Tribunal. So far, no claim has been decreed by the Tribunal.

(f) Policing on Railways is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order are, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. However, following measures are being taken to ensure safe and secure journey to the passengers:-

(i) Nominated trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP) on the vulnerable sections/areas.

(ii) An integrated security system has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive and vulnerable stations of Indian Railways.

(iii) Co-ordination meetings with the State Home Secretaries, senior officials of Ministry of Home Affairs, Intelligence Bureau and Railways are held periodically to improve security on Railways.