

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1558
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010
FRACTURED RAILWAY TRACKS IN NORTHERN INDIA
Rajendran Shri C.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether during the winter months in the northern India, the railway tracks are getting fractured;
- (b) if so, the details thereof as to the total number of cases of rail-line fractures reported during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Railways have conducted any study in this respect;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the damaged track sections are likely to be replaced?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1558 BY SHRI C. RAJENDRAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.11.2010 REGARDING FRACTURED RAILWAY TRACKS IN NORTHERN INDIA.

(a) & (b): Large variations of temperatures is one of the factors for causing rail fractures. Maximum variations of temperature occur in Northern Region which mainly consists of, Northern Railway, North Western Railway, North Eastern Railway, North Central Railway and West Central Railway. During the last three financial years, the rail-line fractures reported on all Indian Railways are as under:

Year Total No. of rail line fractures

2007-08 6238

2008-09 5353

2009-10 6699

(c): Yes, Madam.

(d): Following action is taken to reduce rail fractures/failures:-

- 1) Identification of fracture prone stretches.
- 2) Ultrasonic Flaw Detection testing as per laid down schedules.
- 3) Rail renewal in identified stretches prone to rail fractures in corrosion prone areas.
- 4) Intensive patrolling of identified Rail/Weld fracture prone stretches.
- 5) De-stressing of Long Welded Rails where abnormal behavior is noticed.

(e) The fractured rails are replaced as early as possible. Till such time, trains are passed with suitable speed restriction by properly securing the fractured location.