

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5050  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2010  
ACCIDENT IN TRAINS IN BIHAR  
Choudhary Shri Bhudeo

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

- (a) whether many persons died in an accident of Rajdhani Express at Dandkhora railway station in Bihar recently;
- (b) if so, the details of loss of lives and property;
- (c) whether the Railways have enquired into it;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof and action taken thereon;
- (e) the details of the compensation paid to the victims; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Railways to prevent such incidents?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5050 BY SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.12.2010 REGARDING ACCIDENT IN TRAINS IN BIHAR

(a) & (b): On 09.10.2010, while the train number 2435 Guwahati - New Delhi Rajdhani Express was on run between Dandkhora and Katihar stations of Katihar Division of Northeast Frontier Railway, one auto-rickshaw dashed against train engine at unmanned level crossing No. KM 5 resulting in loss of lives of 08 persons (all occupants of the auto-rickshaw). Loss of railway property in this incident has been estimated to be Rs. 23,000/-(approximately).

(c) & (d): Departmental Enquiry has been conducted into the above incident. As per the enquiry report, the above incident was caused due to lack of adequate caution on the part of the road user (driver of auto-rickshaw).

(e): Compensation is not admissible to the next of kin of deceased and injured road users for such incidents at unmanned level crossings. As an exception and as a humanitarian gesture, Ministry of Railways has ordered for payment of enhanced ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh to next of kin of each deceased person in this incident.

(f): Steps taken by the Railways to prevent such incidents at the unmanned level crossings include:

(i) Ensuring availability of basic infrastructure at level crossings which include levelled road surface at crossings, proper road signs at the approaches including 'STOP' boards to warn the road users, speed breakers/ rumble strips on the approach roads, whistle boards for the train drivers to whistle while approaching the level crossings and approach roads with proper gradient for safe movement of the road vehicle users negotiating the level crossings,

(ii) Public awareness programmes and publicity campaigns undertaken regularly through various electronic and print media to educate the road users for observing safe practices while negotiating unmanned level crossings. State Governments have also been requested to undertake similar campaigns,

(iii) Joint ambush checks with involvement of civil authorities to check the erring road users,

(iv) As a special measure, powers have been delegated to the Zonal Railways to sanction new works of road over bridges and under bridges (Limited/Normal Height Subways) costing upto Rs. 2.50 crores in each case,

(v) Manning of unmanned level crossings in a phased manner upon their qualifying the laid down criteria for manning. Criteria of manning has also been revised to make more number of unmanned level crossings eligible for manning.