

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:516

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011

HIMGIRI EXPRESS INCIDENT

Abdulrahman Shri ;Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Baba Shri K.C.;Singh Shri Radha Mohan;Singh Shri Yashvir;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy ;Thakor Shri Jagdish;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Railways have taken cognizance of the recent incident which took place at Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh wherein 19 people died while travelling a top Himgiri Express;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways have taken stringent steps to check travelling on rooftops of the trains;
- (d) the number of passengers who lost their lives due to travelling on rooftops of the trains during last three years and till date, zone-wise;
- (e) whether the Railways propose to take action against employees or security personnel who allow such dangerous practices; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) and (b): On 03.02.2011 Indo Tibetan Border Force organized a recruitment drive for 400 group D posts without any intimation to Railways. When lakhs of applicants descended at Bareilly on that day, ITBP cancelled the recruitment process and closed the gates of its well protected precincts. The irate crowd first a few buses in the town, ransacked many shops in the local market and then swarmed as an avalanche upon the railway station taking everybody by surprise. The hapless station staff had little force to control this unruly mob and could not prevent them from entering the compartment of long distance trains and climbing the roof tops. The State Administration of Uttar Pradesh was contacted by Senior Officers and the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police landed at the station with additional police force but were unable to control the situation. In the ensuing melee, scores of rowdy elements muscled their way to board the roof top of the Himgiri Express. A few of them went atop the 3AC coach which is taller than the other coaches and were hit by Foot Over Bridge due to their own negligence.

(c): As per section 156 of the Railways Act, 1989, travelling on roof top is a punishable offence. As many as 78981 persons have been prosecuted during the year 2010 for travelling on roof top of trains over Indian Railways.

(d): A zone-wise statement showing the number persons died due to travelling on rooftops of the trains during the years 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 (upto 15th February) is attached as Appendix.

(e) and (f): No such dangerous practice is allowed by any Railway employee or Security personnel.