GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:866 ANSWERED ON:04.08.2011 RAIL SECURITY

Kumar Shri Kaushalendra; Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh; Sampath Shri Anirudhan; Virendra Kumar Shri ; Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are aware of the tragic incidents/ attacks against passengers due to Maoist/ Naxalite/insurgent groups/ terror outfits in trains;
- (b) if so, the details of causalities, State-wise/ UT-wise, during each of the last three years an the current year;
- (c) the total amount of compensation awarded to the people who were the victims of such incidents and their relatives during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) the action taken by the Railways to ensure the security of life and property of the railway passengers;
- (e) whether the Government of West Bengal and South- Eastern Railways authorities discussed security for trains running through Maoists affected areas during night; and
- (f) if so, the outcome of the said discussion?

Answer

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

(a) The incidents of attacks on Railways by various extremist groups and other outfits reported during the last three years and the current year are as under:

Year No of incidents of attack

2008 30

2009 60

2010 75

(Upto June)

(b) The details of casualties reported on various states during the last three years and the current year are as under:

Year Killed/ Bihar Chhattisgarh Jharkhand Odisha West Total Injured Bengal

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2008 Killed 7 - - - 7 Injured 6 - 1 - 7 7

2009 Killed - - 3 - 2 5 Injured - 1 25 - 2 28

2010 Killed - - - 150 150 Injured - - - 168 168

2011 Killed - - 1 - 1 Injured - 3 - 3 (Up to June)
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(c) The compensation is paid by the railways after a claim is filed by the claimant in Railway Claims Tribunal is decreed by the Tribunal in favour of the claimant. The amount of compensation awarded and ex-gratia disbursed by Railways in such cases during the last three years and current year is as under:-

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Year Amount of compensation / ex-gratia

2008-09 Rs. 2.60 crore

2009-10 Rs. 5.21 crore

2010-11 Rs. 13.71 crore

2011-12 Rs. 2.63 crore
(Up to June)
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It is also pointed out that the amounts disbursed do not necessarily pertain to the year of incident.

(d) 'Policing on Railways' is a state subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises including tracks, bridges, tunnels and running trains are, therefore the statutory responsibility of the State Governments concerned which they discharge through their Government Railway Police (GRP) and civil police. Railways bear 50% cost of expenditure on the Government Railway Police. Railways generally depend upon the State Police for security of passengers. Railway Protection Force supplements the efforts of Government Railway Police by deploying their staff for escorting of trains and access control duties at important stations.

However, following measures are being taken by the Railways to ensure safe and secure journey to the passengers.

- (i) Nominated trains are escorted by Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) on the vulnerable sections/ areas.
- (ii) Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India has issued directions to the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal to make additional deployment of Civil Police, Government Railway Police (GRP) and Central Para Military Forces to avoid attacks on Railway infrastructure and avert any likely disasters.
- (iii) Regular coordination meetings are held with the State Governments at Division and Zonal levels by the Railways.

- (iv) Railway Board is also keeping close coordination with Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (e) and (f): With a view to reassess the feasibility of resuming the running of passenger carrying trains during night in the Maoist affected areas, several coordination meetings were held by South Eastern Railway administration with West Bengal Government. The railway administration has communicated to the state administration that it would be agreeable to take the following precautionary measures in the affected sections:-
- # Running of pilot by way of Tower car/Engine/ Goods trains.
- # Running of trains at a suitably restricted speed.

The State administration has been requested to advise whether above precautionary measures are required to be taken on a daily basis or on those days when bandh/ protest call is given by LWE (Left Wing Extremists).