

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1208
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2009
HIJACK OF RAJDHANI TRAIN
Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Guwahati Rajdhani train was hijacked by Maoists recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken against the culprits; and
- (d) the steps being taken to prevent such incidents in future?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No, Madam. However, on 27.10.2009 at about 14:35 hours armed people obstructed train No. 2443 (A) Up (Bhubneswar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express) at Banstala Passenger Halt at KM No. 146/15-17 between Sardhia and Jhargram Railway Stations in Kharagpur-Tata Nagar section and forced the driver to leave the train. They also pelted stones and broke windows of the coaches. As a result, some passengers sustained injuries. Railways requested Ministry of Home Affairs for release of the train. The train was finally released at 22:10 hours with police escort after detention of 7.35 hours.

(c) A police case has been registered. The matter has been referred to Ministry of Home Affairs for necessary investigation.

(d) Policing on Railways is the duty of the State Police through Government Railway Police. However, to provide better security to the traveling passengers in trains and passenger areas, the RPF Act, 1957 and the Railways Act, 1989 have been amended in the year 2003 to enable the Railways, through the Railway Protection Force, to effectively supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways. The concerned State Governments have been requested to take effective steps to control such incidents, and regular coordination is maintained with the State Governments.