

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3740  
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014  
PENDING COMPENSATION CLAIMS  
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

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

- (a) the number of compensation claims of victims of rail accidents pending in various Railway Claim Tribunals till date along with the total amount of compensation claimed;
- (b) the reasons for the delay in the disposal of the said cases;
- (c) the average time taken in disposal of such cases; and
- (d) the time by which the said cases are likely to be disposed of?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3740 BY SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 13.02.2014 REGARDING PENDING COMPENSATION CLAIMS.

(a) As on 01.01.2014, 309 cases of compensation claims of victims of rail accidents are pending in all the Benches of Railway Claims Tribunals. Out of these 132 cases are regarding death of victims in rail accidents and 177 cases are regarding injury suffered by victims due to rail accidents/untoward incidents. The victims of rail accident in their application filed before the Railway Claims Tribunal claim the compensation amount which varies from case to case depending upon the facts and circumstances. The statistics of compensation amount claimed by victims are not separately maintained. But the Railway Claims Tribunal, after following the prescribed legal process awards Rs.4,00,000 in case of death of a victim. In case of injury, the amount as per the laid down schedule is awarded as per the Railway Claims Tribunal Act, 1987.

(b) 1. 19 Posts of Members of Railway Claims Tribunals, out of total strength of 42 posts, are vacant.

2. Claiming compensation in train accident cases u/s 124-A of the Railway Act is a legal process which involves completion of statutory and other formalities.

3. Additional time is also taken for filing documents, tendering evidence, cross examination, etc.

(c)&(d) The time taken in disposal of Railway Accident compensation claims depends upon the facts and circumstances which differ from case to case. No time limit may be prescribed to determine the time required in disposal of such cases.

Being a judicial process, it involves different stages, such as filling of written statements, filing of evidence and arguments, which is a lengthy process and takes time. Despite number of vacant post of Members, all efforts are made by Railway Claims Tribunal for speedy disposal of cases. Circuit Benches are arranged by deputing Members from one Bench to another wherever the post of Member is vacant.