GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4283 ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014 LOSSES DUE TO ACCIDENTS Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Railways incur more than Rs. 100 crore loss per annum due to railway accidents only;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Railways thereto;
- (c) the parameters adopted for compensation and the amount of compensation paid to the victims and injured during the last three years; and
- (d) the steps being taken to check the recurrence of such accidents in future?

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 4283 BY SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.02.2014 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING LOSSES DUE TO ACCIDENTS.

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Railways are liable to pay compensation for death/injury of rail passenger in train accidents under Section 124 of the Railways Act, 1989. Railway Accidents and Untoward Incident (Compensation) Amendment Rules 1997 lay down the scale of compensation which is Rs 4 lakhs for death and permanent disability and Rs 32,000/- to Rs 3,60,000/- for injury depending upon the gravity of injury. Compensation to the victims of train accident is paid by the railways on the basis of claims filed by them in the Railway Claims Tribunal.

The amount of compensation paid to the victims for death/injury in train accidents (under Section 124 of the Indian Railways Act, 1989) during the last three years, i.e., 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13, has been estimated to be Rs 3.77 crore, Rs 5.10 crore and Rs 3.19 crore, respectively.

(d) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Vigilance Control Device (VCD), Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Anti Collision Device (ACD), Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), etc.