GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4302 ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014 ACCIDENTS DUE TO HEAVY PASSENGER TRAFFIC Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have come across the incidents of frequent accidents and heavy passenger traffic in local trains of Mumbai, Maharashtra:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Railways thereto;
- (c) the details of the accidents occurred in Mumbai local trains during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to check the rail accidents and control the passenger traffic in local trains in Mumbai?

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 4302 BY SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.02.2014 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING ACCIDENTS DUE TO HEAVY PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

- (a) & (b) No, Madam. There have been only 08 consequential train accidents involving EMU local trains during the last three years i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13 and the current year (upto January, 2014) over Mumbai suburban railway network. The total number of passengers booked in suburban sector on Central and Western Railways during the period April, 2013 to January, 2014 is 2301.35 million as compared to 2297.49 million passengers booked during the corresponding period of last year.
- (c) The year-wise details of consequential train accidents involving Mumbai suburban EMU local trains during the last three years and the current year is as under:

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Year No.of consequential Category of Accident Casualty train accidents involving Mumbai suburban EMU trains

2010-11 1 Derailment-1 NIL

2011-12 1 Derailment-1 Injured-1

2012-13 5 Collision-1 Killed-1 Derailment-3 Injured-44 Fire-1
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(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, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Other 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), Train Collision Avoidance System/ Anti Collision Device (ACD), etc.

Measures to control the passenger traffic in local trains of Mumbai include increased frequency of EMU services, increased coach composition of EMU trains from 9 to 12 coaches and from 12 to 15 coaches and using section capacity in an optimal manner. This is an ongoing process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc. Besides, entry and exit points of stations are manned to regulate the flow of passenger traffic from and to the station. Ample space on the platforms and waiting rooms is provided for waiting passengers. During the periods of heavy rush, commercial and security staff are deployed to control the passenger traffic in local trains. Additional Foot over Bridges, Escalators, Track Barriers and Boundary Walls are being gradually provided. To dissuade travelling passengers and trespassers from carelessly crossing the tracks, public announcements, nukkad nataks, awareness campaigns and publicity drives are carried out. Advertisements in print and electronic media are also taken out to educate the public at large about dangers of unauthorised trespassing.