

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3027
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2014
INQUIRY OF FIRE ACCIDENT IN TRAIN
Galla Shri Jayadev

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have conducted an inquiry on the Fire Accident that occurred in the Nanded-Bangalore Express at a station in Anantapur district;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Railways based on the Inquiry report; and
- (c) the details of compensation announced and disbursed to the injured and families of the deceased?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3027 BY SHRI JAYADEV GALLA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 31.07.2014 REGARDING INQUIRY OF FIRE ACCIDENT IN TRAIN.

(a): On 28.12.2013 at about 03.15 hours, while Train No.16594 (Bangalore-Nanded) Hazur Sahib Nanded Express was on run in the block section between Sri Satya Sai Prasanthi Nilayam and Basampalli stations on Penukonda-Dharmavaram section in Bangalore Division of South Western Railway, one of its 3 tier AC coach (B-1) caught fire. A statutory inquiry into this incident of fire was conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS)/Southern Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(b): As per the preliminary report of CRS, the fire in 3 tier AC coach of Train No.16594 (Bangalore-Nanded) Hazur Sahib Nanded Express on 28.12.2013 was most probably caused by advertent act or by an act of negligence on the part of unidentified passenger(s) or person(s). Action taken based on the preliminary report is as under:

(i) Recommendation that in air-conditioned coaches, power points provided for charging mobile/laptop should be switched off in night, has been implemented.

(ii) It has been decided to remove curtains in aisles of AC 3-tier coaches to help in faster evacuation and minimise the risk to life during fire accidents.

(c): In the fire incident of Bangalore-Nanded Express that took place on 28.12.2013, the Railway administration announced enhanced ex-gratia relief of `5 lakh to the next of kin of the deceased, `1 lakh to each passenger sustained grievous injury and `50,000/- to each passenger sustained simple injury as a special case on humanitarian grounds. Accordingly, an amount of `1,30,00,000/-, `5,00,000/- and `50,000/- in case of 26 deaths, 5 grievous injury and one simple injury respectively has already been paid by the Railways.