

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1122

ANSWERED ON:08.02.2017

Compensation to Train Accident Victims

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons killed and injured due to train accidents including derailments during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of provisions for giving financial assistance/ compensation to the persons injured in train accidents for their treatment and the relatives of the deceased along with the total amount of compensation given so far during the above period;
- (c) whether the Government has made any effort to find out the major reasons of train accidents and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the involvement of terrorists/anti-national elements in the train accidents has been identified and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the plans formulated and the efforts made by the Government to check train accidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) 634 persons were killed and 1078 persons sustained injury due to train accidents including derailments during the last three years and current year (upto 02.02.2017).

(b) Ex-gratia relief paid to the victims of train accident (as defined under Section 123 read with Section 124 of the Railway Act 1989) in case of death, Grievous injury and Simple injury are `50,000/-, `25,000/- and `5000/- respectively. Further, compensation for death/injury of railway passengers in train accidents is decided by Railway Claims Tribunal on the basis of a claim application filed before them. The scale of compensation as provided in Railway Accident and Untoward Incidents (Compensation) Amendment Rules, 2016 are `8,00,000/- for death and `64,000/- to `8,00,000/- for injury depending upon the gravity of injury. Railway has paid `822.81 Lakhs as compensation during the period.

(c) The major reasons for train accidents including Unmanned Level Crossings are attributable to human failure (both Railway Staff and General Public), failure of equipments, sabotage, combination of factors and incidental.

(d) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). During the years 2014 to 2017 (Upto January), in one case of explosion in train at Chennai Central Railway station on 01.05.2014, involvement of terrorist/anti-national elements has been identified by the CBCID/Chennai Central. In the incident, a case vide Cr. No. Metro-2/2014 under section 302, 326, 307 IPC, Section 3, 4 & 5 of Explosive Substance Act, 1908 read with section 151 of the Railways Act was registered by the CBCID/Chennai Central.

(e): The plans formulated and efforts made to check trains accidents include replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for up-gradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. The safety devices/ systems being used to prevent accident include complete track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Colour Light LED Signal, Vigilance Control Device (VCD), usage of 60kg rails, Pre-Stressed Concrete Sleepers, long rail panels, better welding technology, progressive use of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) Coaches and Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory (ICF) Coaches, etc.
