

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2449

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014

FOG SAFETY SYSTEM

Charitra Shri Ram;Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy;Thota Shri Narasimham

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have taken adequate steps to gear up for foggy conditions in winters including installing detonators to prevent accidents and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Railways have taken decision to cancel certain trains with the apprehension of fog in the ensuing winters and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of passengers to be affected due to cancellation of trains and the alternate arrangements made by the Government for those passengers?

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.2449 BY SHRI NARASIMHAM THOTA, SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA AND SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.12.2014 REGARDING FOG SAFETY SYSTEM.

(a): Yes, Madam. Guidelines are already in place instructing Zonal Railways to take action during foggy season to deal with train operations as under:-

(i) To provide safeguard in train operation in Automatic Block System during foggy weather by restricting the number of trains to two between two stations.

(ii) Reduce the speed of train.

(iii) Deputing additional staff to alert the Loco Pilot through placement of detonators before the First Stop signal.

(iv) Improving the visibility of signals.

(v) Loco Pilot to take precautions, be vigilant and alert and to observe Special Rules and instructions regarding speed limits under foggy conditions.

Technological options are being pursued by Indian Railways for prevention of accidents during conditions of poor visibility by installing notably Fog Safe Device, which is a Global Positioning System (GPS) based device installed to assist the Loco Pilot during poor visibility condition. Currently, a total of 1381 Fog Safe Devices are under trial on Northern, North Eastern and North Western Railways in fog prone areas. In addition, Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS) are also under various stages of trial.

(b): Indian Railways have decided to cancel 27 pairs of train services between 31.12.2014 and 15.02.2015, to ensure smooth operation of trains and safety of passengers during foggy condition.

(c): As a large number of trains have been cancelled and such cancellation affects unreserved passengers as well who are not issued train specific tickets, the number of passengers affected by these cancellations can not be assessed.