

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:405
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014
PROTECTION OF RAIL TRACKS
Charitra Shri Ram;Gaikwad Dr. Sunil Baliram

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have taken adequate measures to protect and guard the railway tracks from the intruders/trespassers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of deaths reported on railway tracks during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
- (c) whether there is continuous rise in number of deaths on the railway tracks and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there are instances of delay in evacuation of injured persons from rail tracks and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Railways for evacuation of injured/dead persons from rail tracks at the earliest?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 405 BY DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD AND SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.12.2014 REGARDING PROTECTION OF RAIL TRACKS

(a) to (c): Railway system is spread over the length and breadth of the country and people tend to get run over due to trespassing, violating safety and cautionary instructions, avoiding over bridges, using mobile phones and other electronic gadgets while crossing railway tracks, falling from trains while travelling on foot-boards, steps, roofs of the trains etc.

The following measures are undertaken to prevent run over cases and death on railway tracks:

1. Erection of boundary wall/ fencing at identified locations, vulnerable to trespass.
2. Regular announcements through Public Address system at Railway stations urging passengers to use over bridges and avoid crossing of Railway tracks.
3. Various passenger awareness programmes like 'Nukkad Natak' to create public awareness about the dangers of crossing Railway tracks.
4. Sending SMSs to sensitize people against trespassing at unmanned level crossings.
5. Safety counsellors visit villages, panchayats, schools, colleges etc. to sensitize the public against trespassing.

The details of deaths reported on Railway tracks during the last three years and the current year are as under:-

Year Death on
railway
tracks

2011 14973
2012 16336
2013 19997
2014 18735
(Upto
October)

The reasons for the rise in number of deaths on railway tracks are growing habitation along railway tracks, crossing multiple railway tracks while using mobile phones and electronic gadgets, etc.

(d): No, Madam. Injured persons are promptly evacuated from railway tracks.

(e): (i). In respect of evacuation of injured persons in mid section, the guard of the concerned train informs the Station Superintendent of the nearest station, who arranges for medical assistance to the injured besides informing the police.

(ii). Any railway employee who finds an injured person on or near the track, is duty bound to render first-aid or summon medical help as early as possible, and to inform the police through the nearest station master or any other person in the vicinity.

(iii). Evacuation of dead persons from railway tracks is the responsibility of the state police. When a dead body is found on or near the track by any railway servant or by the staff of a subsequent train, he informs the police through the nearest station master or any other person in the vicinity. Generally the dead body is not removed until the arrival of police. However, to clear the line for the movement of subsequent train, the body is removed from the line with minimum required movement. The body is thereafter left in charge of village chowkidar or responsible person in the vicinity or lineman or gateman.