GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.-600 ANSWERED ON - 29.11.2024

SAFETY OF RAILWAY PERSONNEL AND AVAILABLE SOCIAL SECURITY MEASURES

600. SHRI P. P. SUNEER:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of deaths and injuries involving railway personnel, including regular employees, contractual workers and outsourced workforce, during construction, maintenance, inspection or coupling of trains in the last three years, zone-wise details;
- (b) the details of the compensation provided to such workers' families, category-wise, zonewise;
- (c) the details of the installation of the RAKSHAK system, zone-wise and details of track percentage covered by the RAKSHAK system and the amount spent for installation, training and operationalisation; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure safety of workers and social security measures available to different category of workers in case of injury or death?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(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.600 BY SHRI P. P. SUNEER ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 29.11.2024 REGARDING SAFETY OF RAILWAY PERSONNEL AND AVAILABLE SOCIAL SECURITY MEASURES

(a) to (d) Safety of train operations and railway personnel, contractual staff engaged in maintenance/construction activities etc. is accorded highest priority on Indian Railways.

Regular counselling and training programs are conducted by officers and senior supervisors for spreading awareness about potential hazards and to follow proper safety protocols etc. during maintenance/constructions and other activities.

To further improve safety of staff, a number of other safety measures are also taken which includes deputation of look out men at the site of working, provision of hooters, retro-reflective jackets, safety shoes, gloves and safety helmets to staff etc. Safety fencing is also provided at site, whenever needed to ensure safe working at site.

Instructions have also been issued to all zonal railways to provide Rakshak devices at all feasible locations.

As a result of above safety measures, the average number of deaths and injuries involving railway employees in accidents have reduced significantly as under:

Period	Deaths	Injuries
2004-05 to 2013-14	94	1878
2014-15 to 2023-24	65	569

In case a Railway employee loses his/her life due to accident in the course of performance of duty, an amount of Rs 25 Lakhs Ex-gratia lump-sum compensation is provided to the family. The amount of Ex-gratia compensation is same for all categories of Railway employees working on all Zonal Railways.

Indian Railways also have a scheme for providing appointment on compassionate grounds to dependents of Railway servants who lose their life in the course of duty or die in harness otherwise while in service or are medically incapacitated/decategorized subject to the fulfilment of terms and conditions for such appointments.

As per Section 3 of the Employee's Compensation Act, 1923 the employer is liable for payment of compensation in case of personal injury leading to disability or death. Further Section 4 of the Employee's Compensation Act, 1923 stipulates the amount of compensation to be paid in case of personal injury or death.

As per Para 59(6) of the General Conditions of Contract, 2022 the Contractor labourers and their families shall be granted free treatment in railway hospitals and dispensaries under certain conditions.

Railway employees also have provision for grant of extraordinary pension in case of injury/death due to railway service. In case of injury/death due to railway service in different circumstances, family pension and disability pension at various rates are provided to the family pensioners/pensioners.
