

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 317  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2016**

**SAFETY OF PASSENGERS IN RAILWAYS**

**\*317. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether train accidents have increased during the last two years and the current year and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the major reasons for surge in the recent train accidents;**
- (c) the steps taken to avert the accidents and ensure safety of passengers;**
- (d) whether adequate and timely compensation has been paid to all the victims and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (e) the number of pending cases, zone-wise and action taken to expedite payment of compensation in such cases?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 317 BY SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN AND SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.12.2016 REGARDING SAFETY OF PASSENGERS IN RAILWAYS**

**(a): During the last two years i.e. 2014-15 & 2015-16, number of consequential train accidents are 135 and 107 respectively. During the current year i.e. 2016-17, 85 Consequential Train Accidents have taken place till November 2016.**

**(b): Major causes of the consequential train accidents which took place during the last two years and the current year (upto 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2016), are given below:**

<b>Cause</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17 (Upto November, 2016)</b>
<b>Failure of Railway Staff</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Failure of other than Railway staff + Road Vehicle Users</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Failure of equipment</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Sabotage</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Combination of factors</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Incidental</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Could not be established/non-held</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Under Investigation</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>85</b>

**(c): Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling 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. Safety devices/systems being used to prevent accidents include complete track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Colour Light LED Signals, Vigilance Control Device (VCD), usage of 60kg rails and Pre-stressed Concrete Sleepers, long rail panels, better welding technology, progressive use of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) Coaches, Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory (ICF) Coaches, etc.**

**(d): Yes, Madam. The amount of compensation is decided by the Railway Claims Tribunal (RCT) in terms of Railway Accidents and Untoward Incidents (Compensation) Rules, 1997 by awarding a decree. The amount of compensation is paid by the Railways if the decree so awarded by the Tribunal is decided to be satisfied by the Railways.**

**(e): Total number of pending cases of compensation claim relating to train accidents is 410 till 31.10.2016. Compensation is paid on the basis of decree awarded by RCT which is a quasi judicial body, independent from Railways and payment against claim cases can be made by Railways only after award of the decree by RCT. Decrees are awarded by RCT after adjudication of the claim application filed with them. Adjudication involves observance of legal procedures which cannot be interfered with. Zone-wise statement of pending claim cases is appended as Appendix-I. Measures taken for speedy settlement of claim cases are appended as Appendix-II.**

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**APPENDIX-I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 317 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.12.2016 REGARDING SAFETY OF PASSENGERS IN RAILWAYS**

**(e) NUMBER OF CASES INVOLVING TRAIN ACCIDENTS ON ALL INDIAN RAILWAYS UNDER SECTION 124 AS ON 31/10/2016**

<b>RAILWAY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CASES</b>			
	<b>Death</b>	<b>Injured</b>	<b>Loss of Property</b>	<b>Missing Passenger</b>
<b>Central</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>East Central</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>East Coast</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>North Central</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>North Eastern</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Northeast Frontier</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Northern</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>North Western</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Railway Board</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>South Central</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>South Eastern</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>South East Central</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Southern</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>South Western</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>West Central</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Western</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

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**APPENDIX-II REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 317 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.12.2016 REGARDING SAFETY OF PASSENGERS IN RAILWAYS**

**(e) STEPS FOR SPEEDY SETTLEMENT OF COMPENSATION CLAIMS**

- 1. Instructions have been issued to all Zonal Railways that as soon as a passenger train accident or untoward incident takes place, all particulars of injured and killed may be obtained, claim application forms sent to claimants, and the record should also be made available to the concerned bench of the Railway Claims Tribunal.**
- 2. When claims are filed and put up for hearing, the Railways should give all possible assistance to the Tribunal for speedy settlement.**
- 3. Written statements are to be filed by the Railways in such cases within 15 days of receipt of notice from RCT.**
- 4. After the decretal amount of a claim has been sanctioned, Railways have to ensure that cheques are issued and dispatched within a period of 15 days.**
- 5. Prior finance concurrence in respect of the accident compensation claims case have been dispensed with.**
- 6. The Chief Claims Officers have been empowered to satisfy the decree awarded in case of accident compensation claims upto ₹4 lakhs.**
- 7. Applicant can file claim at the Railway Claim Tribunal Bench having jurisdiction over the place of residence of the applicant or the place where the passenger purchases his ticket or where the accident or untoward incident occurs or where the place of destination station lies, as against only at the place of occurrence of accident earlier.**

- 8. Maximum of three adjournments for each case permitted for claim applications filed before Railway Claims Tribunal.**
- 9. Railway Claims Tribunal to pass final orders within 21 days of final hearing of the case filed before it.**
- 10. One copy of order of Railway Claims Tribunal for accident compensation claims to be supplied free of cost to the applicant within 3 days of the passing of final orders.**
- 11. Affidavit filed before Railway Claims Tribunal can be affirmed before the Registrar or Asst. Registrar or Addl. Registrar of the Tribunal or an advocate in addition to Judicial Officer/notary.**
- 12. Relevant Rules & Procedures in connection with compensation claims in respect of "Accident" have been incorporated in the Indian Railways Website i.e. [www.indianrailway.gov.in](http://www.indianrailway.gov.in). It also contains format of different application forms which are needed for filing compensation claims.**

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