

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 209
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.11.2016**

RAIL ACCIDENTS

**209. SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY:
SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the frequent rail accidents in the State of Kerala;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years and the current year and the reasons therefor, accident-wise;**
- (c) the number of incidents of derailment that took place in the country particularly in Kerala, zone-wise;**
- (d) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the incidents of these derailments and if so, the outcome thereof;**
- (e) whether National Human Rights Commission has asked to submit a report on track safety, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) the measures taken by the Government for replacement of old tracks?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 209 BY SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY, SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN, SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH AND SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.11.2016 REGARDING RAIL ACCIDENTS.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The details of Consequential train accidents (excluding Unmanned Level Crossing Accidents) that have occurred in the State of Kerala during last two years and in the current year up to 31st October, 2016, are as under:-

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (up to 31/10/2016)
Number of Accidents	0	0	02

First accident was derailment that took place on 28.08.2016 in which, the Train No. 16347 Up. Trivandrum-Mangalore Express while on run through Karukkutty station, its 12 coaches derailed at the station.

The Second accident, which was also derailment, took place on 19.09.2016 in which Up Kottayam Pilot goods left Sasthamkotta station and while on run in block section, its 09 Wagons derailed out of which 05 wagons capsized between Sasthamkotta and Karunagappalli stations.

(c): State of Kerala has Palakkad and Thiruvananthapuram divisions of Southern Railway. The number of consequential train derailments that took place in Southern Railway during the last two years and in the current year upto 31st October, 2016 is given below:-

Southern Railway	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (up to 31/10/2016)
Number of derailments	0	5	7

The number of consequential train derailments that took place during the last two years and in the current year upto 31st October, 2016 in divisions of Thiruvananthapuram and Palakkad is given below:

Accident Type	Zone	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (up to 31/10/2016)
Derailment	Southern Railway	0	0	02 (Division- Thiruvananthapuram)

(d): All consequential train accidents on Indian Railways are inquired into either by Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation or Departmental Inquiry Committee of the Railway.

There were no Railway Board reported incidents of derailments in the State of Kerala during the last two years. In the current year up to 31st October 2016, there have been two cases of derailments on Thiruvananthapuram (TVC) division of Southern Railway. The derailments in this year have been investigated by Departmental Inquiry Committees. As per the findings of the inquiry committee, the incident of derailment at Karukkutty station on 28th August 2016 was attributed to rail fracture due to an old flaw and the other incident of derailment in the Quilon-Kayankulam (QLN-KYJ) block section on 19th September 2016 was attributed to failure to

maintain the track as per laid down standards. Disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against the staff held responsible.

(e): Yes, Madam. A report regarding safety of railway tracks in Kerala has been furnished to Hon'ble National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) from Railways wherein it is stated that subsequent to derailment of Mangalore Express on 28.08.2016, a Special Drive on Ultrasonic testing for 248 kms of track having scabbed and wheel burnt locations were carried out in Southern Railway and 201 defects at scabbed/wheel burnt locations were identified and removed by renewing the rails. Further, during current year so far, 27 km and 52.3 km rails have been supplied to Palakkad and Thiruvananthapuram Divisions respectively and renewal of rails for 25 km track has been done in last 2 months. A close watch is being kept on timely execution of such track renewal works.

(f): Track renewal is a continuous activity, which is to be undertaken as and when a stretch of track becomes due for renewal on the basis of criteria laid down in Indian Railway Permanent Way Manual. As per norms, track renewal works are completed within 2-3 years of sanction. This, however, also depends on budget availability.
