

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 28
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2018**

RAIL ACCIDENTS

**†*28. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:
SHRI BHARAT SINGH:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of train derailments and accidents occurred in various parts of the country including Amritsar during the last three years and the current year;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the number of persons killed/injured in these accidents and the total amount of compensation paid to the families of the victims, accident-wise;**
- (c) whether any inquiry has been conducted/ordered into these accidents, if so, the details and the outcome thereof;**
- (d) the number of Railway officials held guilty for lapses on their part and the action taken against them, accident-wise; and**
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to check frequent rail accidents in future and ensure the safety and security of the rail passengers?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(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. 28 BY SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA AND SHRI BHARAT SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 12.12.2018 REGARDING RAIL ACCIDENTS

(a) & (b) Details of type-wise number of consequential train accidents that took place during the last three years and in the current year upto 30th November, 2018 and number of persons killed/injured therein are as under:-

Type of Accidents	2015-16			2016-17			2017-18			2018-19 (Upto 30/11/2018)		
	Number of accidents	Killed	Injured	Number of accidents	Killed	Injured	Number of accidents	Killed	Injured	Number of accidents	Killed	Injured
Collision	3	1	12	5	5	28	3	0	0	0	0	0
Derailments	65	36	99	78	193	322	54	28	174	35	7	39
Manned Level Crossings	6	12	10	0	0	0	3	3	9	3	4	13
Unmanned Level crossings	29	58	41	20	40	19	10	26	12	3	16	7
Fire	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	2	2	1	1
Misc.	4	15	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Total	107	122	187	104	238	369	73	57	197	44	29	62

Causes-wise details of consequential train accidents that took place during the last three years and in the current year upto 30th November, 2018 are as under:-

Broad Causes	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (upto 30/11/18)
Failure of Railway staff	55	63	43	28
Failure of other than Railway staff	38	23	18	07
Failure of equipment	02	03	03	00
Sabotage	01	02	02	00
Combination of factors	01	03	02	00
Incidental	09	07	05	05
Could not established/ Non Held	01	00	00	00
Under Investigation	00	03	00	04
Grand Total	107	104	73	44

The amount of compensation paid during the last three years and the current year (upto Nov 2018) is as follows:-

Year	Compensation paid (₹in lakhs)
2015-2016	262.96
2016-2017	303.17
2017-2018	188.51
2018-2019 (upto Nov 2018)	164.68

Note: The compensation paid in a year need not necessarily relate to the accidents/casualties in that year alone. The amount paid in a year depends upon the number of cases finalized by the Railway Claims Tribunals (RCTs) or other Courts of Law in a particular year irrespective of the year(s) in which the accident they pertain to, have occurred.

In the Amritsar incident on 19.10.2018, as per Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety's preliminary report, the incident has been classified as Trespassing over the Railway property. Ex-gratia of ₹2 lakhs for kin of deceased and ₹50,000/- for injured has been announced from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) in this case.

(c) & (d) Accidents on Indian Railways are inquired into either by the Commission of Railway Safety (CRS) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation or by the Departmental Inquiry Committees of Railways. During the last three years i.e. from 2015-16 to 2017-18 and the current year 2018-19 (upto 30th November, 2018), 33 serious train accidents have been inquired into by the Commission of Railway Safety (CRS) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The Commission of Railway Safety has submitted final inquiry reports in 25 cases and preliminary inquiry reports in 05 cases of above train accidents.

On the basis of the findings of these inquiry reports, disciplinary action as per the prescribed norms is taken against the staff found guilty and penalties are imposed on the staff found responsible by the concerned departments of the Indian Railways.

During the last 3 years viz. 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and current year upto October, 2018, 344 major penalties and 301 minor penalties were imposed on erring officials.

Various corrective and improvement measures have been taken by the Ministry of Railways as per the findings of the various inquiry reports so as to improve the safety aspect over the Indian Railways.

(e) 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.

To ensure safety of rail passengers, the following measures have been taken:-

1. Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) - As announced by Hon'ble Minister of Finance in his Budget Speech for 2017-18, a fund namely 'Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK)' had been introduced with a corpus of ₹1 lakh crore over a period of five years from 2017-18 onwards for critical safety related works.

A provision of ₹20,000 crore has been made in Budget Estimate 2018-19 out of 'RRSK', as was done in 2017-18. The Funds under RRSK are being utilized to finance works under Plan heads Traffic Facilities, Rolling Stock, Level Crossing, ROB/RUB, Track Renewal, Bridge Works, Signal and Telecommunication Works, other Electrical Works, TRD Works, Machinery and Plant, Workshop and Training/HRD.

2. Expenditure on safety has increased consistently from ₹45516 Cr. in 2015-16 to ₹53457 Cr. in 2016-17, ₹60885 Cr. in 2017-18 and further ₹73065 Cr. (Budget Estimate) in 2018-19.

3. Topmost priority is given to Rail/Track renewal by making available funds and material for rail renewal. Further adequate traffic blocks for carrying out work are also being provided. In 2017-18, a record rail renewal work of 4405 km was done and in the current year a target of 5509 km of rail renewal has been set, which is about 25% more than the last year.

- 4. Switch over to the manufacture of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches from 2018-19 onwards and stopping the manufacture of ICF coaches. The LHB coaches having superior design and better safety features like anti-climbing features etc. It has also been planned to retrofit around 32000 existing ICF coaches having a life of up to 15 years and having Screw Coupling with CBC in the next few years.**
- 5. Indian Railways has also decided to install advanced signaling system like European Train Control System (ETCS) Level -2 which will improve safety.**
- 6. Modern technology that lower reliance on human element and improve efficiency of the system like Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing (SPURT Car), TPWS (Train Protection and Warning System) and TCAS (Train Collision Avoidance System) as means of Automatic Train Protection to prevent accidents are being tried out.**
- 7. Elimination of unmanned level crossings on Broad Gauge through closure, merger, provision of subways and manning, etc. Upto November, 2018 all the unmanned level crossings (UMLC) have been eliminated on Broad Gauge except a very small number i.e. 28 UMLCs.**
- 8. New works have been included in the category of Safety works like Platform extension and raising, foot overbridge, pathways and boundary walls etc. to improve passenger safety.**
- 9. Delegation of powers and easing of procedures, improving safety awareness amongst railway employees, and better training facilities like imparting simulator based training for improving the driving skills and the reaction time of Loco Pilots.**

In view of the above safety measures taken by the Railways, the numbers of Consequential train accidents have declined from 107 in 2015-16 to 73 in 2017-18 and further in the current financial year i.e. 2018-19 (upto November, 2018) consequential train accidents have decreased from 51 to 44 in comparison to corresponding period of the previous year.

Security has been identified as one of the priority areas by the Railways for strengthening and upgradation. Measures initiated for security of passengers include escorting of 2500 trains (on an average daily), in addition to escorting of 2200 trains by GRP, operationalisation and upgradation of Security Help Line number 182, access control at important stations, erection of morchas, guarding of platforms, yards and circulating areas, surveillance through Close Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras at important railway stations etc.

Prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of law and order in railway station premises as well as in running trains are the statutory responsibility of State Governments, which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP). Railways, through the Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing efforts of respective States to strengthen security across Indian Railways.

For regular monitoring and review of security arrangements for the Railways, State Level Security Committee for Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories (UTs) under the

**Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/
Commissioner of States/ Union Territories.**
