

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1441  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2018**

**RAILWAY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM**

**1441. SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:**

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

- (a) the average time taken by the Railway Emergency Response team to arrive at the rail accident site;**
- (b) whether such teams are equipped with sufficient tools and man power; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1441 BY SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 19.12.2018 REGARDING RAILWAY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM**

**(a) to (c): Indian Railways are fully prepared to quickly access the accident site for conducting rescue and relief operations in co-ordination with other Government and non-Government organisations within the initial hours of the accident. Railways have a network of 175 Accident Relief Trains (ARTs), 162 Accident Relief Medical Vans (ARMVs) and 320 stationary Portable Medical Kit for Accidents (POMKAs) placed at identified locations, which cover the entire rail network of Indian Railways. These trains are provided with rescue equipment and trained man power. Immediately on receipt of information about an accident, involving or likely to involve injuries or deaths, ARMV is rushed to the site of the accident. Time required for the relief train to reach the accident spot depends upon the distance and fitness of the approach track. Many a times Railway doctors, paramedics and other officials reach the accident site by road depending upon accessibility of the site by road.**

**On receiving the information of the accident, not only the Railways' resources, but resources from other Government and non-Government organisations are also requisitioned as per the need. For this purpose, contact details of such non-Railway resources are kept at the Railway stations and Railway hospitals/primary health centres as well as in the divisional and headquarter control rooms of the Zonal Railways. On-board staff like Loco pilot, assistant Loco pilot, guard, travelling ticket examiner, escorting staff etc., are trained in first aid and disaster management. These on-board staff act as first responders, they carry out rescue and relief operations till the time ART/ARMV reaches accident site. Assistance is also sought from civil administration, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and Armed Forces in case of major accidents.**