GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3643 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023

COLLISION OF TRAINS

3643. DR. AMAR SINGH:

SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an investigation has been conducted to determine the cause of head-on collision between two trains in Uttar Pradesh on February 16, 2023, if so, the details of the said investigation;
- (b) whether any action has been taken to replace the malfunctioning Bogie-Mounted Brake System (BMBS), if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of trains currently running that are fitted with the German-made BMBS;
- (d) the number of accidents that occurred due to the malfunctioning braking system over the past year;
- (e) whether it is true that the BMBS was red-flagged by the Research Design and Standards Organization in July 2022; and
- (f) if so, the action taken in this regard between July 2022 to February 2023?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(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. 3643 BY DR. AMAR SINGH AND SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:

TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.03.2023 REGARDING COLLISION OF TRAINS.

- (a) Yes, Sir. The inquiry is under process. The cause of head-on collision between two trains in Uttar Pradesh on February 16, 2023 will be established on finalization of Final Inquiry Report.
- (b) The following action has been taken by Indian Railways between July, 2022 and Feb, 2023:
 - i) Railway Board formed a committee comprising officers from RDSO and Zonal Railways for investigation of issues related to Bogie Mounted Brake System (BMBS). The committee brought out deficiency related to brake force and inconsistent braking distances in Bogie Mounted Brake System (BMBS) of one of the firms.
 - ii) The particular firm has been de-listed from the list of approved suppliers.
 - iii) The maximum speed of loaded trains with more than fifty percent wagons with Bogie Mounted Brake System has been restricted.
 - iv) Instructions for running goods trains with mixed brake system composition of wagons, i.e. with brake systems of affected design and other existing design, have been issued to Zonal Railways.
 - v) The particular firm has proposed design corrections in their Brake System (BMBS) and instrumented field trials are planned to validate the same.
 - vi) As an interim measure, replacement of BMBS of the particular firm with other design Brake System has been decided.

(c) No train is currently running fitted with German-made Bogie Mounted Brake System.

However, the Bogie Mounted Brake System (BMBS) is being manufactured in India by a wholly owned subsidiary of the German company. Approximately 88,000 wagons are running, which are fitted with this type of design of Bogie Mounted Brake System.

(d) During the past year i.e. in 2021-22, no consequential train accident took place due to malfunctioning of braking system, on Indian Railways.

However, during the current year i.e. 2022-23, one consequential train accident took place due to malfunctioning of braking system, on Indian Railways.

(e)&(f) The deficiency related to brake force and inconsistent braking distance in BMBS was raised by RDSO in July 2022. The action taken in this regard between July 2022 and February 2023 is given above in reply of Para(b).
