

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1667
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2015**

FIRE INCIDENTS IN TRAINS

1667. SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the incidents of fire accidents in the coaches of trains are on the increase;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year with the details as to the number of persons killed, seriously hurt and the value of the property lost in these accidents;**
- (c) whether the Railways has installed fire alarm or warning systems at least in all AC coaches of the superfast Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Garib Rath and Duranto Trains and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government to reduce the number of fire accidents on the trains?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1667 BY SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.12.2015 REGARDING FIRE INCIDENTS IN TRAINS

(a): No, Madam. Consequential fire accidents in coaches are showing a declining trend in the last three years from 9 in year 2012-13 to 7 in 2013-14, 6 in year 2014-15 and nil in the current year 2015-16 till date.

(b): Details are indicated below.

| Year | No. of Fire Accidents | No. of passengers lost life | No. of passengers grievously injured | Cost of damages |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 2012-13 | 9 | 31 | 10 | 111.72 lakhs |
| 2013-14 | 7 | 35 | 05 | 408.68 lakhs |
| 2014-15 | 6 | Nil | Nil | 66.49 lakhs |
| 2015-16 till 15th Nov. | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |

(c): A pilot project for provision of Comprehensive Fire and Smoke Detection System has been taken up in one rake of New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express on East Coast Railway. Besides, one LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) rake in New Delhi - Jammu Tawi Rajdhani train and one AC Double Decker rake running between Kachiguda-Tirupati/Guntur have also been provided with such a system. Based on the feedback from initial trails, Board has sanctioned for extended field trails.

Contd...2/-

(d): Followings steps are being taken on Indian Railways to prevent fire accident in trains:-

- **Indian Railways have always endeavored to enhance fire worthiness of coaches by using fire retardant furnishing materials to mitigate effect of fire. Specifications for such furnishing materials have been periodically reviewed to incorporate fire retardant parameters in line with UIC (International Union of Railways) and other international norms. All new manufacture of coaches/periodical overhauling of existing coaches is being carried out with fire retardant specifications of the furnishing materials wherever condition based replacements are warranted.**
- **Fire extinguishers are being provided in all Air-conditioned coaches, Second class-cum-guard and luggage vans, Pantry cars and train locomotives.**
- **Improved materials for electrical fittings and fixtures such as MCB (Miniature Circuit Breaker), light fittings, terminal boards, connectors, etc., are being used progressively.**
- **Detailed instructions have been issued to zonal railways for observance of safe practices in handling of pantry cars and for ensuring periodical inspection of electrical and LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) fittings in the pantry cars.**
- **Intensive publicity campaigns to prevent the travelling public from carrying inflammable goods are regularly undertaken.**
- **Frequent drives against carrying of inflammable/dangerous articles in trains as well as station premises are undertaken.**
