

(b) whether Railway's disaster management plan presently lacks cohesiveness and is ill-prepared to handle disasters;

(c) if so, the reaction of Railways thereto alongwith the corrective measures taken in this regard;

(d) whether Railways is considering to improve its emergency services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Railways are fully prepared to quickly access the sites for conducting rescue and relief operations in co-ordination with other governmental and non-governmental organizations within the initial hours of the accident. On receiving the information of the accident, not only the railways resources like Accident Relief Medical Vans, Accident Relief Trains, but resources from other government and non-government organizations are also requisitioned as per the need. For this purpose, contact details of such non-railway resources are kept at the Railway Stations and in Railway hospitals as well as in the Divisional and Headquarter Control Rooms of the Railways. These resources are mainly of medical facilities of private hospitals, medical units located near to each Railway Station, Blood Banks, Ambulances etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Vacant posts in railways

2220. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the safety mechanism in Railways is being compromised;

(b) whether any posts relating to safety and security lying vacant in Railways;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has any plan to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No.
Sir.

(b) to (c) Following No. of vacancies are lying vacant in Railways:

Safety related vacancies	-	89024 (As on 01.04.2009)
Security related vacancies	-	8114 (As on 01.04.2009)

(d) While recruitment in Railways is a continuous process, it is now at various stages for filling up the vacancies in Group 'C and Group 'D' categories. This includes the backlog vacancies in respect of SC, ST and OBC, as also vacancies reserved for the physically challenged persons.

Facilities at Tapri railway station

‡2221. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tapri near Saharanpur has been accorded status of a Junction;

(b) if so, the facilities provided there;

(c) the reasons for having only one platform at Tapri railway station; and

(d) by when drinking water facility, waiting hall for passengers and platforms at Tapri would be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes
Sir, as two routes are meeting at Tapri.

(b) to (d) Tapri already has two platforms, one high level and one rail level. Drinking water and waiting hall facilities are also available.

Train accidents

2222. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the slain driver of the Uttarbanga Express which met with an accident on 19 July, 2010 had been driving the train for four successive nights;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi