

**Collision of Gorakhdham Express with goods train**

\*64. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of passengers died, critically injured and sustained minor injuries, category-wise, in collision of Gorakhdham Express with goods train near Sant Kabir Nagar district in UP;

(b) whether medical relief and rescue teams were rushed without delay to save maximum lives and to provide immediate succour to the injured passengers, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered into the cause of the accident, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether compensation to the nearest kin of dead and to the injured passengers was distributed or still pending, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

***Statement***

(a) 29 passengers lost their lives, 16 passengers were critically (grievous) injured and 58 passengers sustained simple injury in accident involving Gorakhdham Express in Sant Kabir Nagar District of Uttar Pradesh on 26.05.2014.

(b) Yes, Sir. Medical Relief and Rescue Teams were rushed to accident site without delay. The incident took place at 10:35 hours on 26.05.2014. Medical Director/ North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur with medical team departed from Gorakhpur by Accident Relief Medical Equipment (ARME) Train at 11:12 hours and reached the accident site at 12:05 hours. Chief Medical Director with medical team departed from Gorakhpur by road at 11:25 hours and reached the accident site at 12:45 hours. Another ARME Train departed from Gonda at 11.10 hours and reached the accident site at 13:30 hours while Ambulance which departed from Gonda at 11:25 hours reached the accident site at 13:35 hours.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the preliminary report of the Commissioner of Railway Safety, North Eastern Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the accident was caused due to failure of rail and hence the accident is classified under the category "Failure of Equipment - Permanent Way".

(d) Compensation to the victims of train accident, as defined under Section 124 of the Railways Act, 1989, is paid by the Railways on the basis of claims filed and decreed by Railway Claims Tribunal, which is a quasi judicial body, independent from the railways. In the above accident, compensation would be paid on receipt of decree of the Tribunal.

As a special case on humanitarian grounds, enhanced *ex-gratia* relief of Rs. 2 lakh to the next kin of each deceased, Rs. 1 lakh to each grievously injured and Rs. 20 thousand to each simple injury passenger was announced by the Railway Administration. In addition, *ex-gratia* relief of Rs. 2 lakh to the next of kin of each deceased and Rs. 50 thousand to each grievously injured passenger was also announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. Accordingly, *ex-gratia* has been paid in all the cases except three death cases which are pending on account of dispute of legal heirship.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member is absent. Any supplementaries? No supplementaries.

#### **Status of railway lines/tracks and stations**

\*65. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of railway lines/tracks and stations in Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir Valley regions of Jammu and Kashmir, separately, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Assam and Andaman and Nicobar Islands and plans to start new railway projects, the area-wise details thereof; and

(b) the tourist and general public traffic for these areas in regard to Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

(a) *The State -wise Gauge-wise route kilometers are given below:-*

Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Route kilometers as on 31.03.2014			
		BG	MG	NG	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	11.00	1.26	0.00	12.26
2.	Assam	1766.30	701.63	0.00	2467.93