

Of these 3 were major train accidents attended with 10 more fatalities. The details of these 3 major accidents are as under:—

S.No.	Date	Brief Details	Killed	Injured	Cause
1	27.2.04	A truck dashed against the train engine of 5657 Exp. at unmanned level crossing No. SK-333 of the Katihar Division of Northeast Frontier Railway	10	37	Negligence of road user
2	12.5.04	A three wheeler dashed against the train engine of 4015 Exp. at Unmanned Level Crossing No. 30 of the Varanasi Division of North Eastern Railway	10	2	Negligence of road user
3.	16.06.04	While on run, the train engine and next 10 coaches of the 2620 Up Matsyagandha Express, derailed between the Veer-Karanjadi stations of the Ratnagiri-Roha region of Konkan Railway.	15	106	Boulder and soil fall, resulting in obstruction on track.

(b) Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways and continuous initiatives are undertaken to prevent accidents. These measures include adoption of suitable and modern technology for interlocking and signalling systems, upgradation of standards of track and rolling stock, modernization of maintenance practices, replacement of overaged assets, upgradation of training aids like simulators and checks on observance of safety precautions. A Corporate Safety Plan (2003—2013) has also been prepared and is followed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

A/C Coaches In Ranikhet Express

†151. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend facility of A/C first class and A/C second class in the Ranikhet Express running between Delhi-Kathgodam in view of the growing demand of tourists;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[9 July, 2004]

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(b) if so, by when the above facility would be extended; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) For upper class passengers of 5013/5014 Delhi-Kathgodam Ranikhet Express, two AC-2 tier coaches and one AC-3 tier coach are available. Since the train is running with maximum permissible load, it is not feasible to provide First AC coach or additional AC-2 tier coach at present.

Train derailment in Rayagada, Orissa

152. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a train derailment in Rayagada district of Orissa on the 9th June, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the causes of this derailment;

(d) whether it is a fact that human error was the cause of this derailment; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed by the Railways to avert such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

However, there was a train derailment in the Rayagada District of Orissa on 19.06.2004 in which train Engine with 03 (three) coaches of 8006 Dn Samleswari Express derailed between Lillguma and Bhalumaska Stations of Koraput-Rayagada single line section of Waltair Division. There was no injury and casualty to any passenger. The accident is being inquired into and the report is awaited.

Proposal to include Guntakal in South-Western Zone at Hubli

153. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to include Guntakal in