

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:64
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2001
DERAILMENT OF MANGALORE CHENNAI MAIL
RAMESH CHENNITHALA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

:

- (a) whether the Chennai bound Mangalore-Chennai Mail was derailed over Kadalundi rail bridge near Kozhikode in Kerala on June 22, 2001;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of persons killed and injured as a result of this accident;
- (d) the compensation paid to the relatives of those killed and to the injured;
- (e) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;
- (f) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to avoid such type of incident in future ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.64 BY SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA AND SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH TO BE ANSWERED ON 26-07-2001 REGARDING DERAILMENT OF MANGALORE-CHENNAI MAIL

(a) to (c) : On 22.6.2001, while 6602 Mangalore-Madras Mail was passing through Kadalundi station, 10 coaches derailed on the Kadalundi Bridge out of which five fell into the river, while some coaches were partially in water, two were fully submerged in the river. The accident occurred in Palghat Division of Southern Railway. 52 passengers lost their lives and 314 received injuries as a result of this accident.

(d) : Compensation claims for train accidents are decided by Railway Claims Tribunal. No claim has been filed so far. Compensation shall be paid soon after the claim cases are decreed by the Railway Claims Tribunal, Ernakulam which has jurisdiction over the place of accident. However, ex-gratia announced by Minister for Railways amounting to Rs.92.47 lakhs has been paid to the next of kin of deceased and injured passengers so far.

(e) & (f) : Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety, who functions under the control of Ministry of Civil Aviation, has taken up statutory inquiry into this accident. His Final Report into the cause of the accident is awaited.

(g) : The important steps taken by the Government to check accidents in future are listed below :-

- i) Rebuilding of distressed and some of the obsolete types of bridges have been planned.
- ii) Railways have been advised to impose speed restriction wherever considered necessary.
- iii) Availability of system to carry out the under water and underground inspection of bridges is being explored in the world market.
- iv) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cars and portable accelerometers are being used progressively.
- v) Maintenance facilities for coaches and wagons have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.