

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3702
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2001
DRIVE OF TRAIN BY A YOUTH
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a 17 years youth drove an engine of an empty train in the reverse direction for 115 kilometres on July 19, 2001;
- (b) if so, whether any effort was made to halt the train running in the reverse direction;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (f) the precaution being observed to check recurrence of such dangerous incident;
- (g) whether some persons have been injured in this incident;
- (h) if so, the details thereof;
- (i) whether the Government have paid any compensation to those injured;
- (j) if so, the details thereof; and
- (k) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (k) : A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (k) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3702 ASKED BY SHRINARESH PUGLIA, SHRI C. SREENIVASAN, SHRI MANJAY LAL, SHRI JAI PRAKASH AND SHRANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.08.2001 REGARDING DRIVE OF TRAIN BY A YOUTH

(a) to (c) : Yes, Sir. On 19.07.2001, the empty rake of 556 Dn. Passenger train was standing at Manduadhah station. The loco shunter came down from engine and while the engine was left unmanned one miscreant climbed in the cab, interfered with the controls and drove the train in the reverse direction. This accident occurred on Varanasi Division of North Eastern Railway. All efforts were made to halt the train and the line was kept clear and set & locked for straight run, detonators were placed, stones thrown to attract attention of youth to stop the train. At last route was set for dead end siding of Allahabad City station, where the train entered and derailed after travelling a distance of 118 kilometres.

(d) & (e) : Above accident has been enquired into by a Committee of Officers and as per findings of Enquiry Committee, this incident occurred due to negligence of Loco Shunter who left the loco without handing over charge to authorised staff or taking proper precautions as stipulated before leaving the locomotive unattended. Loco Shunter/Varanasi has been held primarily responsible and Senior Sectional Engineer/Loco/Varanasi has been held secondarily responsible in this accident. Action under Discipline & Appeal Rules has been initiated against them.

(f) : The Loco Shunter who had left the locomotive unattended has been placed under suspension. Intensive monitoring and counseling of Drivers/Shunters are being done so that they do not leave locomotive without following proper procedure required to ensure safety.

(g) & (h) : In this accident, one unidentified person was killed and one RPF Havaldar sustained serious injuries.

(i) to (k) : Compensation claims for train accidents are decided by Railway Claims Tribunal. No compensation claim has been made so far. However, an ex-gratia payment of Rs.5,000 was made to the injured RPF Havaldar.

