**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 2138**

**Mr C H H Hunsinger (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:**

(1) What (a) number of Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) staff have been (i) injured or (ii) died while (aa) on duty and/or (bb) on Prasa premises over the past three financial years and (b) are the details of (i) the location where the incident took place and (ii) the circumstances surrounding the incident;

(2) whether the incident have been reported to the SA Police Service; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what is the progress of each case;

(3) whether any claims were lodged against Prasa; if so, what (a) amount was claimed and paid out and (b) support has been provided to the employee or dependents?

**NW2293E**

**REPLY :**

1. (a) (i) (aa) & (bb) Injuries on duty (Disabling Incident, (DIs))

2015/16 - 315 Dis

2016/17 - 272 Dis

2017/18 - 282 Dis

(ii) (aa) & (bb) Fatalities

2015/16 - 8 Fatalities

2016/17 - 4 Fatalities

2017/18 - 3 Fatalities

(b) Details (i) and (ii) Fatalities:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Month | Region | Description |
| 2015/16 | April | Gauteng – Rail | Train driver died in a train accident which took place in Denver. |
|  | June | The incident occurred during a station closure at Olifantsfontein, wherein a colleague was assaulted by a commuter. The Safety Patroller (deceased) was rushing to assist the assaulted colleague when he did not observe an approaching train from the South about to enter the station. He moved too close to the line in operation and was struck by the train and died on impact. |
|  | September | Rolling Stock employee was electrocuted while attending to faults on a train at Braamfontein Depot. |
|  | August | Western Cape – Rail | Platform Marshall fell between the platform and the train while on duty and was struck by train. |
|  | May | MLPS - Rail | Two (2) employees died in a train collision between a TFR and MLPS train which took place at the Eastern Cape. |
|  |  | Autopax | Bus Accident (2 Incidents) |
| 2016/17 | Dec | Gauteng Rail | Section Manager was hit by train while out to crank points. |
|  | Dec |  | Employee died from a company motor vehicle accident. |
|  | July | Western Cape Rail | An employee was on the platform learning the train line routes when he got robbed by unknown men and got shot. |
|  | September |  | An employee was robbed and stabbed while waiting for the train. |
| 2017/18 | June | Gauteng - Rail | This was a community service delivery related incident wherein community members blockaded the rail with foreign objects. When members of the Protection Services attempted to remove the objects to allow train movement, it agitated the community members and violence broke out between the security personnel and the community members which resulted in the stoning to death of a colleague. |
|  | Nov |  | Employee was applying earth wire on the down main line and was electrocuted. |
|  | Dec | Kwa-Zulu Natal – Rail | Protection Services Personnel was assisting passengers to board busses as trains were not available. This was at Mangosuthu Highway close to Lindokuhle Station. While crossing the road he was knocked down by a motor vehicle which failed to stop and then sped away. He was then struck by a second vehicle which also failed to stop and sped away. |

(b) Details (i) and (ii) Disabling Injuries:

| Business Unit | Year | No | Description |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PRASA RAIL | 2015/16 | 313 | Assaults by fare evading commuters and the public, Injuries resulting from company motor vehicles, Electrocutions, Smoke Inhalations resulting from high tension burnouts, Trips and falls resulting from uneven surfaces and on platforms, Unsafe acts etc. |
| 2016/17 | 262 |
| 2017/18 | 278 |
| Total | 853 |  |
| PRASA CRES | 2015/16 | 1 | Hearing loss case was identified in Cape Town |
| 2016/17 | 2 | Employee driven over by a car and sustained minor injury to her leg – poor communication between the driver and passenger. |
|  |  | Fell from the stairs; he didn’t do the three point contact |
| 2017/18 | 44 | Tree branch fell on the person who was cutting trees at Durban but sustained minor injuries – the injured didn’t conduct a risk assessment before the works |
|  |  | Inhaled gas fumes at Umjantshi House, Johannesburg, which resulted from a burst generator piping and was send to the hospital for treatment – faulty piping system. |
|  |  | Strained back while she was lifting some chemical containers – poor lifting techniques and lack of lifting equipment |
|  |  | An employee was involved in a car accident on the N1 highway while he was returning to Umjantshi, Johannesburg using his personal vehicle from a meeting in PRASA House, Pretoria |
| Total | 7 |  |
| AUTOPAX | 2015/16 | 1 | Bus accident-Head Injury |
|  | 2016/17 | 1 | Slipped and fell at workshop- Fractured ankle left foot (October 2016) |
|  | 201718 | 7 | Bus tyre/wheel- Lost middle finger (July (2017) |
|  |  |  | Bus Accident – Head Injury (July 2017) |
|  |  |  | Bus Accident- Right Hand Injury (December 2017) |
|  |  |  | Attacked by passengers- Left eye Evisceration (November 2017) |
|  |  |  | Bus Accident – Upper body Injuries (March 2018) |
|  |  |  | Bus Accident – Hip injuries (March 2018) |
|  | TOTAL | 09 |  |
| Grand Total | | 869 |  |

1. Reporting to SAPS:

| Year | Month | Description | SAPS reported | Progress |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2015/16 | April | Train driver died in a train accident | Cleveland SAPS Case no:291/04/2015 | Police were notified as well as other stakeholders (EMS) as per the GP Contingency Plan. Further to this the Police had requested the final board of inquiry report, which was submitted to them. |
|  | June | Safety Patroller was hit by train | Olifantsfontein SAPS, case no: 256/06/2015 | The Police were notified as well as other stakeholders (EMS) as per the GP Contingency Plan. Department of Labour was also informed. The commuter who was assaulting the colleague was arrested and sentenced to three years which was wholly suspended. |
|  | September | Rolling Stock employee was electrocuted | No case number was given / recoded | All stakeholders such as EMS, Police and Department of Labour were informed. |
|  | August | Platform Marshall struck by train. | SAPS attended the incident although no case was registered | No criminal case was opened as this was an injury on duty |
|  | May | Two (2) employees died in a train collision (MLPS) | Bisho SAPS Case: 0033/05/15. | The case is closed |
|  |  | Bus Accident (2 Incidents) | Case Number 312/10/2016  Case Number 138/04/2015 | Bus number ZFF 242 GP  Bus number YVD 529 GP |
| 2016/17 | Dec | Section Manager was hit by train | Moffat View SAPS Case no: 89/12/2016 | Police were notified as well as other stakeholders (EMS) as per the GP Contingency Plan. Department of Labour was also informed. |
|  | Dec | Employee died in company motor vehicle accident. | No case number was given / recorded | Stones were placed on the road and the employee lost control of the vehicle. He was taken to Lenmed Hospital where he was declared dead at 02h20. |
|  | July | An employee on the platform robbed and shot. | Case no 302/07/2018 (Bishop Lavis) | 3x Suspects prosecuted and convicted to 25 years imprisonment. |
|  | September | An employee was robbed and stabbed | Mannenberg Case 260/09/2016 | Case Pending |
| 2017/18 | June | Protection Services Staff member assaulted and stoned to death. | Kliptown SAPS Case no:506/06/2017 | Police was informed of the situation as well as other stakeholders. The matter is still under investigation by the SAPS. |
|  | Nov | Employee electrocuted. | Johannesburg Central SAPS Case no: 1080/11/2017 | Police were notified as well as other stakeholders (EMS) as per the GP Contingency Plan. Department of Labour was also informed. |
|  | Dec | Protection Services Staff member hit by cars. | 349/12/2017 | Closed undetected. |

1. Claims against PRASA:
2. All injuries (DIs) and fatalities have been reported to the Department of Labour as per the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act (COID) Act 130 of 1993 as amended. We do not have any other claims.
3. Support provided

| Year | Month | Description | Support provided to dependents |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2015/16 | April | Train driver died in a train accident | Family Counselling and company funeral benefit |
|  | June | Safety Patroller was hit by train | Family Counselling and company funeral benefit |
|  | September | Rolling Stock employee was electrocuted | Family Counselling and company funeral benefit |
|  | August | Platform Marshall struck by train. | The employee was married to a policeman with two children. Assistance was given to the family by both Metrorail and SAPS. The team worked together for counselling and was never referred to Metropolitan. |
|  | May | Two (2) employees died in a train collision (MLPS) | A full debriefing was provided to the family members.  EWP assisted the family members to go and identify the bodies with the assistance of PRASA EWP Service and Provider Metropolitan Health.  Telephonic follow – ups were done by PRASA EWP Specialists.  21 employee debriefings were done  One employee is still undergoing Occupational therapy. |
|  | April | Bus Accident (2 Incidents – April and October) | Family Counselling and company funeral benefit |
| 2016/17 | December | Section Manager was hit by train | Family Counselling and company funeral benefit |
|  | December | Employee died in company motor vehicle accident. | Family Counselling and company funeral benefit |
|  | July | An employee on the platform robbed and shot. | EAP assistance was given to the wife, the son and the daughter. The family was referred to Metropolitan for further intervention. |
|  | September | An employee was robbed and stabbed | Trauma  debriefing was provided |
| 2017/18 | June | Protection Services Staff member assaulted and stoned to death. | Family Counselling and company funeral benefit |
|  | November | Employee electrocuted. | Family Counselling and company funeral benefit |
|  | December | Protection Services Staff member hit by cars. | Memorial service was held at Prasa  Family was referred to Prasa EWP external service provider for trauma debriefing and counselling.  The wife of the deceased was seen for individual counselling by EWP for psychotherapy  Work visit was done at the depot in order to check the progress of the wife  Continuous psychotherapy as part of management and treatment of the case. |