

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:266
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2003
RAILWAY SAFETY FUND
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount deposited in the Railway Safety Fund since its inception;
- (b) whether the Railways have diverted Safety Fund for the non-safety work;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Railway officials have failed to utilize safety fund resulting in spate of rail accidents;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken against those held responsible in this regard for not taking Safety work?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (f) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 266 BY S/SHRI RAMSHE THAKUR AND ASHOK N. MOHOL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.08.2003 REGARDING RAILWAY SAFETY FUND

(a) The amount deposited in Railway Safety Fund since its inception, i.e., 1.4.2001 upto 31.3.2003 is Rs 799 crores.

(b) No, Sir,

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir. This fund is used for Road Safety Works consisting of (i) manning of unmanned level crossings and (ii) construction of road over bridges / road under bridges at busy level crossings.

The utilization of this fund during last two years has been as under -

(Rs in crore/Net)

Plan Head	2001-02		2002-03		
	BE	Act	BE	RE	Act
Road Safety Works- Level Crossing	50	53	125	115	82
Road Safety Works-ROB/RUB	250	87	325	149	82

There has been under-utilization of funds mainly under planhead Road Safety Works - Road Over Bridge/Road Under Bridge. This is so because in case of construction of Road Over/ Under Bridges, while Railway constructs bridge proper (over/under the track) the approaches are constructed by State Government. The under-utilization of funds has been because of delay on the part of State Governments in finalisation of plans and drawings, land acquisition for the approach roads, non-prioritization of work in their annual plan, funds constraints with State Governments etc. Railway takes up the work in their portion only after State Government starts work

on approaches to synchronize completion and to avoid blocking of Railway funds. Due to delay in starting of work by State Governments, Railway is not in position to start the work on their portion. The under-utilization of funds under planhead Road Safety Works - Level Crossings has been due to revision of policy of manning which was under review and has since been finalized in May 2003.

(e)&(f) : Does not arise.