

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1539
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003
REPLACEMENT OF OLD BRIDGES
M.H. AMBAREESH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of old rail bridges which have been replaced with new ones during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise;
- (b) when were these bridges constructed;
- (c) the time taken to replace these bridges;
- (d) the details of bridges which developed serious cracks before completing five years; and
- (e) the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL)

(a) to (c) Railway bridges are rebuilt/rehabilitated based on physical condition as assessed during detailed annual inspections carried out by the field officials and not on the basis of their age. Rebuilding/repair of bridges involves collection of site data, preparation of drawings, design, preparation of estimate and its sanction in Works Programme. It also involves arrangements of material, preparation of diversion and launching arrangements, availability of traffic blocks and availability of funds.

Considering all above aspects and scope of work, the average time taken for rebuilding/rehabilitation of bridges, may vary from one to five years. The sanction of bridge works and monitoring of progress of rebuilding/rehabilitation of bridges is maintained zone-wise and not state-wise. Total bridges repaired/rehabilitated during last three years on Indian Railway are as under: -

YEAR NUMBER OF BRIDGES
 REPAIRED/REHABILITATED

2000-2001 649
2001-2002 725
2002-2003 1151

- (d) No bridge completed in last five years has developed serious cracks rendering the bridge unserviceable.
- (e) Does not arise.