

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1753
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2007
OLD RAILWAY BRIDGES
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has identified the old railway bridges which have outlived their lives;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise; and
- (c) the action plan formulated to replace such bridges?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1753 BY SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.08.2007 REGARDING OLD RAILWAY BRIDGES.

(a)to(c):The life of a Railway Bridge is not based on its age but on physical condition as ascertained by inspections.Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of Bridges is a nongoing process on Indian Railways. Railway undertakes repair,rehabilitation/rebuilding of bridges on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections carried out in the field and not on the basis of age.Based on such identification of Bridges, allotment of funds is made annually to carry out their rehabilitation/rebuilding/ strengthening duly prioritizing the works as per requirement. In 2001-02, to clear the backlog of replacement of such identified Bridges on Indian Railways, 2370 Bridges were sanctioned for rehabilitation/ rebuilding/strengthening at a cost of Rs. 1530 Crore under Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF). Apart from SRSF, additional funds are also made available annually in Railway Budget to undertake rehabilitation/ rebuilding/strengthening of fresh accruals of Bridge works mainly under Depreciation Reserve Fund (DRF). During the current year i.e. 2007-08, a total of 1444 no. of Bridges have been targeted for rehabilitation/ rebuilding/strengthening on all sixteen Zonal Railways. The Zone-wise progress of Bridge works during last three years & targets for 2007-08 are given as under :

Railway	No. of Bridges				
	rehabilitated/rebuilt/strengthened during				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	
	(Target)				
Central		129	90	62	65
Eastern	96	126	106	127	
East Central	66	57	47	61	
East Coast	55	30	41	40	
Northern	404	405	144	158	
North Central	35	35	20	51	
North Eastern	40	20	18	15	
Northeast- Frontier	112	125	80	123	
North Western	90	73	65	70	
Southern-	68	81	104	122	
South Central	155	77	80	91	
South Eastern	60	33	39	64	
South East	35	58	65	65	
Central South Western	6	20	20	23	
Western-	140	126	128	240	
West Central	88	75	95	129	
TOTAL	1579	1431	1114	1444	