

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4543
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2009
REPAIR OF RAILWAY BRIDGES
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of rail bridges in the country which have been declared 'dangerous' by the Railway Safety Review Committee, State-wise;
- (b) the number of bridges which have been repaired so far;
- (c) whether the Railways have formulated any scheme to construct new bridges; and
- (d) if so, State-wise details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

- (a) No Railway bridges in the country have been declared dangerous by the Railway Safety Review Committee.
- (b) to (d) Information on Railway Bridges is maintained Zone-wise not State-wise. Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of Bridges is an ongoing work on Indian Railways.

Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of Bridges is undertaken on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections carried out in the field and not on the basis of age. Therefore, all old Bridges do not necessarily require rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening.

Certain Bridges which may show signs of deterioration of physical condition indicating need for rehabilitation etc. are classified as Distressed Bridges. These, however, are neither unsafe nor dilapidated Bridges. Priority is given to early rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of Distressed Bridges. If required, suitable speed restrictions are imposed on such bridges till rehabilitation/rebuilding/ strengthening is carried out. Sometimes the Bridges are strengthened due to the requirement of heavier axle loads and higher tractive effort. 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

A total of 12851 numbers of Railway Bridges, including 1345 number of distressed Bridges, have been rehabilitated / rebuilt / strengthened on Indian Railway since 1998-99 upto May, 2009.