

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1537
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2012
OLD BRIDGES
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of old and outdated rail bridges in the country especially in the backward and rural areas which require strengthening and reconstruction on a large scale as on date;
- (b) whether any comprehensive scheme has been chalked out for strengthening and reconstructing these old and damaged bridges in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details of such bridges identified for rehabilitation work, zone-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1537 BY SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.03.2012 REGARDING OLD BRIDGES.

(a) to (c) No age norms are laid down for the railway bridges. There is no outdated bridge on Indian Railway system. The rebuilding/rehabilitation/ strengthening of bridges is undertaken on the basis of their physical condition and not on the basis of age. Information on Railway Bridges is maintained zone-wise. As on 01.04.2011, there are 33,012 Railway Bridges which are more than 100 years old. A regular and rigorous system of inspection of Bridges is followed on Indian Railways. Under this system, all the Bridges are thoroughly inspected once a year by designated officials. In addition, the inspecting officials also inspect the Bridges during their routine inspections. Rebuilding/rehabilitation/strengthening of Bridges is undertaken on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections. As on 01.04.11, 3681 Railway bridges are sanctioned for rebuilding/rehabilitation/ strengthening, which include bridges of all ages, with following zone-wise breakup:

Railway CR ER ECR ECoR NR NCR NER NFR

Bridges 138 370 522 89 328 136 8 132

Railway NWR SR SCR SER SECR SWR WR WCR

Bridges 199 227 315 304 149 159 327 278

During the last five financial years, a total of 6201 nos. of Rail Bridges have been rebuilt/rehabilitated/strengthened on Indian Railway system.