

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:91

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012

RAILWAY SAFETY FUNDS

Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao;Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have under-utilized the Railway Safety Funds meant for upgrading level crossing and construction of Road over Bridges and under Bridges;

(b) if so, the details of the targets set in this regard and targets achieved during the last three years along with the number of cases taken up and those still pending;

(c) whether any reports have been received containing critical comments regarding utilization of the railway safety funds recently; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Railways thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 91 BY SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI AND ADV. GANESHRAO DUDHGAONKAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.08.2012 REGARDING RAILWAY SAFETY FUNDS

(a) & (b): Utilisation of Road Safety Fund vis-à-vis allocation is as under:

Year	Allocation of Fund (Rs. in crores)	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)	Percentage Utilisation
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2009-10	1458.36	807.17	55.35
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2010-11	1700.00	1101.45	64.79
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2011-12	2000.00	1329.05	66.45
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From the above, it can be seen that the percentage utilization of funds is steadily increasing every year and at present the percentage utilization is approximately 67%. The utilization of Road Safety Fund also depends upon the positive cooperation from the State Govt. Most of the times, progress of ROB/RUBs is hampered due to:

late sanction of corresponding work in the State Budget

inadequate fund allocation by the State Government

non-submission of General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) & estimate by the State Govt.

frequent changes in alignment of approaches

late finalisation of tender for the work of approaches

non-availability of encumbrance free land for construction of approaches

not providing undertaking to maintain road and drainage in future for RUBs

delay in providing consent of closure of level crossings

Targets vis-a-vis achievements of Road Safety Works in last three years are as under:

Year Construction of ROB's Construction of
(Railway Portion only) Subways by Railways
on Cost Sharing Basis

Target Achievements Target Achievements

2009-10 70 80 139 102
2010-11 75 67 417 384

2011-12 80 83 677 653

From the above, it is seen that the targets fixed for construction of ROB's (Railway Portion) and RUBs have been more or less achieved in the past.

(c) & (d) Standing Committee for Railways has commented regarding utilization of Road Safety Fund. As directed by the Esteemed Committee, all necessary steps are being taken for better co-ordination among all agencies involved in the construction of ROB's/RUBs for optimum utilization of funds. Some of the steps taken are as under:

joint survey with all concerned including State Govt. to finalise the tentative GAD

circulation of check list and guidelines for preparation of GAD to State Govt. to avoid any back reference from Railway to State Govt.

standardization of drawings for various spans to avoid delay in designing

nomination of nodal officer for single window clearance of GAD from Railway side

use of pre-cast /pre-fabricated components of the bridge

engaging single agency for construction of Railway Bridge as well as the approaches