

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:181
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2012
ELIMINATION OF UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSINGS
Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao; Rama Devi Smt.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have taken a policy decision to eliminate unmanned level crossings in the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the said policy including the roles assigned to various authorities/State Governments and other stakeholders in the scheme;
- (c) the alternatives proposed and the criteria laid down for the same;
- (d) the details of the works carried out so far for the purpose in the country, Zone-wise with their location along with funds earmarked and utilized during the last three years and current year; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken to improve the Railways safety?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 181 BY SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI AND SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.08.2012 REGARDING ELIMINATION OF UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSINGS.

(a): Yes, Madam. Railway has taken policy decision to eliminate all unmanned level crossings in the country.

(b): Railway has decided to progressively eliminate all unmanned level crossings by:

(i) Closure - Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/ negligible Train Vehicle Units (TVUs)

(ii) Merger - Merger of unmanned level crossing gate to nearby manned or unmanned gates or subway or Road Under Bridges (RUBs) or Road Over Bridges (ROBs) by construction of diversion road.

(iii) Provision of Subways/RUBs

(c): (i) Manning - Railway has also decided to progressively man those unmanned level crossings which cannot be eliminated by above methods on the basis of rail-road traffic volume and visibility conditions.

(ii) Criteria for manning of unmanned level crossings:

Unmanned level crossings have been categorized into I to III for manning at Railways cost in a phased manner as per following priority:

Category-I: All Unmanned Level Crossings Gates with TVU above 3000.

Category-II: All unmanned level crossings gates with visibility restricted to 800 meters for road users and TVU above 2500.

Category-III: All unmanned level crossings, which do not fall in Category- I & II above and which cannot be eliminated by any other methods like construction of diversions road, subway, closure of gates having low TVU or any other means as per extant policy instructions.

(d): Details of elimination of unmanned level crossings, Railway Zone-wise, in the last three years and current year i.e. 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 & 2012-13 (upto June'2012) are as under given annexure.

(e): The other steps taken /being taken to improve the safety at unmanned level crossings are:

Ensure availability of basic infrastructure at these level crossings,

Public awareness and publicity campaigns through electronic media and print media,

Mass messaging (SMSs) to educate road users,

Joint ambush checks with involvement of Civil Authorities to penalize the erring road users.