

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:515
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013
ELIMINATION OF UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSINGS
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Saroj Shri Tufani

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the total number of unmanned Level Crossings (LC) in the country as on 1 April 2013, zone-wise;
- (b) the total number of LC gates that have been eliminated during the last three years, zone-wise;
- (c) the total number of LC gates that have been converted into manned LC gates during the said period along with the total cost incurred, zone-wise;
- (d) the steps being taken by the Railways to eliminate LCs in town/cities in order to solve the problem of frequent traffic jams; and
- (e) the alternatives worked out by the Railways to eliminate unmanned LCs along with the time frame stipulated for the same as well as the action plan devised to mop up the required funds in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(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. 515 BY SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI AND SHRI TUFANI SAROJ TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02.05.2013 REGARDING ELIMINATION OF UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSINGS

(a): Total number of Unmanned Level Crossings in the country as on 01 April 2013, zone-wise are as under:

S.No. Zone No. of Unmanned Level Crossings

1	Central Railway	262
2	Eastern Railway	236
3	East Central Railway	790
4	East Coast Railway	644
5	Northern Railway	1305
6	North Central Railway	453
7	North Eastern Railway	1196
8	North East Frontier Railway	705
9	North Western Railway	1174
10	Southern Railway	842
11	South Central Railway	700
12	South Eastern Railway	809
13	South East Central Railway	495
14	South Western Railway	519
15	Western Railway	2294
16	West Central Railway	158
	Total	12582

(b): Total number of Level Crossing (LC) gates that have been eliminated/ closed (manned & unmanned both) during the last three years, zone-wise are as under:

S.No.	Zone	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	Central Railway	27	35	38
2	Eastern Railway	26	18	76
3	East Central Railway	16	9	7
4	East Coast Railway	25	22	47
5	Northern Railway	233	59	55
6	North Central Railway	29	29	14
7	North Eastern Railway	69	44	115
8	North East Frontier Railway	61	32	25
9	North Western Railway	111	89	61
10	Southern Railway	17	118	96
11	South Central Railway	90	59	112
12	South Eastern Railway	26	39	43
13	South East Central Railway	64	42	51
14	South Western Railway	45	41	91
15	Western Railway	73	42	59
16	West Central Railway	21	28	67
	Total	933	706	957

(c): Total number of LC gates that have been converted into manned LC gates during the said period along with the total cost incurred, zone-wise are as under:

S.No.	Zone	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Cost incurred on manning (2010-13) (Rs. In crores)		
1	Central Railway	17	8	8	6.60		
2	Eastern Railway	16	21	12	102.8		
3	East Central Railway			12	80	16	4.00
4	East Coast Railway			14	2	33	9.80
5	Northern Railway			65	115	37	58.55
6	North Central Railway	9	2	3	2.15		
7	North Eastern Railway	88	31	60	95.74		
8	North East Frontier Railway			42	118	3	41.60
9	North Western Railway	24	36	7	42.01		
10	Southern Railway			15	37	60	42.56
11	South Central Railway	32	121	99	36.92		
12	South Eastern Railway	31	66	20	23.40		
13	South East Central Railway			29	9	8	9.00
14	South Western Railway	10	22	74	15.90		
15	Western Railway	16	101	16	45.22		
16	West Central Railway			14	8	7	5.80
	Total	434	777	463	542.05		

(d): To solve the problem of frequent traffic jam in towns/cities, railway has decided to eliminate manned level crossings by construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs)/ Road Under Bridges (RUBs) in a phased manner based on the quantum of traffic density. ROBs/RUBs are being constructed on cost sharing basis/on railway cost/on deposit term as per the criteria given below:

(A) On cost sharing basis:

1. Level crossings with Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) more than 1 lakh qualify for replacement by ROB/RUB on cost sharing basis.
2. Level Crossings in the following areas with TVU less than 1 lakh can also be considered for replacement by ROB/RUB on cost sharing basis under following conditions:

Suburban sections having high frequency of train services; and

Near stations where detentions to road traffic are very high on account of either shunting operations or multi directional receipt/dispatch of trains or stabling of trains etc.

Wherever Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) planned parallel to Indian Railways and TVU is more than 50,000

(B) On Railway Cost: Wherever DFC planned parallel to Indian Railways and TVU is less than 50,000, Railway has planned to eliminate these LCs on railway cost by constructing ROBs/RUBs.

(C) If the quantum of road traffic is less than 1 lakh and LC is not on DFC route parallel to Indian Railways, then such LCs may be replaced by ROBs/RUBs by sponsoring agency on deposit terms i.e. the sponsoring agency has to bear the complete cost of construction and maintenance thereof.

(e): It has emerged from the analysis of the pattern of accidents that manning of unmanned level crossings is not an ideal solution for avoiding accidents. Therefore, the policy of manning of unmanned level crossings has been reviewed and accordingly, Railways have decided to progressively eliminate all unmanned level crossings by:

Closure - Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/ negligible Train Vehicle Unit (TVU)

Merger - Merger of unmanned level crossing gate to nearby manned or unmanned gates or subway or Road Under Bridge (RUB) or Road Over Bridge (ROB) by construction of diversion road.

Provision of Subways/RUBs

Manning- The unmanned level crossings which cannot be eliminated by above means will be progressively manned based on rail-road traffic volume, visibility conditions.

Elimination of all these Level Crossings is a gigantic task and involves lot of manpower, resources and budgetary support. It is a continuous process and is done as per need, inter-se priority of works, availability of funds and co-operation of State Government, particularly, in getting consent of closure of level crossing and undertaking to maintain road and drainage in future for subways.

Ministry of Railways has approached Ministry of Finance for additional allotment of funds from Central Road Fund to complete the sanctioned Road Safety Works which includes elimination of unmanned level crossings 10,797 in 12th Five Year Plan.