

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.144
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019**

LEVEL CROSSINGS

***144. SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA:
SHRI PINAKI MISRA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of level crossings, across the country at present;**
- (b) the total number of unmanned level crossings on all available and operational lines;**
- (c) the deadline fixed by the Government to do away with the unmanned level crossings on all the operational lines;**
- (d) the alternative provisions that the Government has made for the users where the unmanned level crossings have been done away with; and**
- (e) the number of people killed at level crossings in the country during 2014-15 and the action taken by Government to minimize such accidents?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COAL, FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(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. 144 BY SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA AND SHRI PINAKI MISRA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 13.02.2019 REGARDING LEVEL CROSSINGS

(a) & (b): There were 19507 Manned Level Crossings (MLCs) and 5792 Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) in the country as on 01.04.2018. Out of 5792 UMLCs, there were 3479 UMLCs on Broad Gauge (BG). All these 3479 UMLCs on BG have been eliminated on 31.01.2019.

On operational Meter Gauge (MG) and Narrow Gauge (NG) lines, 1042 UMLCs exist in total (343 on MG and 699 on NG) at present. Balance are under gauge conversion blocks. Presently, there are 21901 MLCs in the country.

(c): It was decided to eliminate all UMLCs on Broad Gauge (BG). All 3479 UMLCs on BG have been eliminated on 31.01.2019. So far as elimination of UMLCs on Meter Gauge (MG) and Narrow Gauge (NG) is concerned, it has been planned to be eliminated during gauge conversion.

(d): Depending upon site specific feasibility, UMLCs have been eliminated by adopting following four methods:

- Closure - Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/ negligible Train Vehicle Unit (TVU). This was carried out with the specific approval of District Magistrate (State Government).**
- Merger - Merger of UMLCs with nearby level crossings (LCs)/grade-separators by construction of diversion road. This was carried out with the specific approval of District Magistrate (State Government).**
- Provision of Subways/RUBs/ROBs in lieu of level crossings. This was carried out with the specific approval of District Magistrate (State Government).**

• **Manning-** Though manning is not an ideal and cost economic proposition, unmanned LCs which could not be eliminated by above methods, were manned.

(e): During 2014-15, 130 and 31 persons were killed at unmanned and manned level crossings respectively. It was decided by the Government to eliminate all UMLCs on BG. All UMLCs on BG are now eliminated. Action is being taken to reduce the accidents on manned LCs by following methods:

(i) Interlocking of level crossings.

(ii) Elimination of manned level crossings.

(iii) Social awareness campaigns to educate road users with the use of various print and electronic media for observance of safe practices.

(iv) Public awareness campaigns at different places like villages, Gram Panchayat, weekly market, bus stands, schools and other public places.

(v) Nukkad Nataks organized at public places with theme "Safety at Level Crossings".

(vi) Safety drives to ensure availability of basic infrastructure at level crossings including whistle boards, road warning boards, speed breakers, visibility etc. as per the laid down standards.

(vii) Level crossing awareness week is organized each year by the Zonal Railways.

(viii) Joint awareness and safety campaigns are being done with State Police Departments and RTO officials to ensure safety measures and observance of rules by road users.

(ix) SMS-based campaigns to create awareness amongst road users.

Above steps are continuing to bring down accidents at manned level crossings