

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 719  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2018**

**TRAIN ACCIDENTS**

**719. SHRI G. HARI:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the number of train accidents over the last three years after the Railways took a series of measures to improve safety;**
- (b) if so, the details of the accidents that took place during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17;**
- (c) whether the safety measures including speedy track renewal ultrasonic rail detection system, elimination of several unmanned level crossings are proposed to be taken on priority basis and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether a special safety fund along with sophisticated LHB coaches with anti-climbing features have additionally helped in making train travel safe and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 719 BY SHRI G. HARI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.02.2018 REGARDING TRAIN ACCIDENTS**

**(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. During the last three years, the number of consequential train accidents (including accidents at Unmanned Level Crossings mainly caused due to negligence of road vehicle users) have decreased from 135 in 2014-15, to 107 in 2015-16 and further to 104 in 2016-17. In the current year (upto 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2018) the number of consequential train accidents have reduced to 65 as compared to 95 in the corresponding period of the previous year.**

**(c): Railway tracks are replaced through track renewal works, which is an ongoing process. Track renewal works are undertaken as and when a stretch of track becomes due for renewal on the basis of criteria laid down in Indian Railway Permanent Way Manual on age/condition basis. The Track renewal works are planned in advance every year and their execution are prioritized according to the condition of track and other factors ensuring all the time that track is in sound condition for running of trains. For the year 2017-18, 3600km in Complete Track Renewal (CTR) Units target has been kept for track renewal. In view of the shortfall in production of rails by SAIL vis-à-vis requirement for 2017-18, it has been decided by Ministry of Railways in September, 2017 to give priority for giving rails for track renewal purpose to replace old rails vis-à-vis new construction projects.**

**Ultrasonic Flaw Detection (USFD) of rails and welds is carried out at predefined periodicity to detect internal flaws in rails/welds.**

**A decision has been taken to eliminate 4267 unmanned level crossings in the Broad Gauge network in the next two years. It is the endeavour of Railways to eliminate all unmanned level crossings in a phased manner by either of the following:-**

**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.**

**(d): A fund namely ‘Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh’ (RRSK) has been created with a corpus of ₹1 Lakh crore over a period of 5 years for critical safety related works. Accordingly, a provision of ₹20,000 crore has been made in budget estimates 2017-18 out of ‘Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh’ to fund essential works for ensuring safety.**

**The funds under ‘Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh’ shall be deployed to finance works under Plan heads Rolling Stock, Level Crossing, ROB/RUB, Track Renewal, Bridge Works, Signal and Telecommunication Works, other Electrical Works, TRD Works,**

## **Machinery and Plant, Workshop and Training/HRD.**

**The passenger coaches plying over Indian Railways (IR) have been designed with the necessary safety features considering the operating conditions over IR. Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) design coaches are of a superior design and have safety features like anti-climbing etc. in unfortunate event of an accident. It has been decided that only LHB coaches would be manufactured from April, 2018 onwards.**

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