# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

# LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 20 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018

### **CONSTRUCTION OF LEVEL CROSSINGS**

# †\*20. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI PATIL: SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the construction work of several manned/unmanned level crossings, Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) has been delayed across the country during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the zone-wise details thereof along with the present status of these level crossings/bridges;
- (c) whether the construction cost of the said level crossings/bridges has increased due to delay in their construction during the said period and if so, the zone-wise details thereof;
- (d) the number and zone-wise status of such level crossings/bridges the cost of which has been shared by the concerned State or private company; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to ensure timely construction of such level crossings/bridges in the country?

### **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.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 20 BY SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI PATIL AND SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.07.2018 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF LEVEL CROSSINGS

(a) to (e): No, Madam. No new manned/unmanned level crossings are being permitted for construction on existing lines as level crossings are a potential safety hazard for both road and rail users, more so for road users. Hence, question of delay for construction of manned/unmanned level crossings does not arise.

Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges (ROBs/RUBs) are constructed in lieu of level crossings on cost sharing basis with State Govt. In few cases ROBs/RUBs are constructed on the request of State Government at their cost on deposit term basis, where level crossings are not present. Normally, Railway undertakes construction of ROBs/RUBs in Railway portion whereas approaches are being constructed by State Govt. Generally, there is no problem of construction of ROBs/RUBs in Railway portion. However, construction of ROBs/RUBs on approaches depends upon many factors such as availability of land, removal of encroachments, fixing the alignment of approaches, allocation of requisite funds etc. Therefore, it is not possible to fix the time schedule for construction of ROBs/RUBs projects.

However, Railways has taken following pro-active measures in close coordination with various stakeholders to enhance the progress of construction of ROBs/RUBs in replacement of busy level crossings which are as under:

• joint survey with all concerned including State Government to finalise the tentative General Arrangement Drawing (GAD).

- standardization of drawings for various spans to avoid delay in designing.
- nomination of nodal officer for each State for single window clearance of GAD from Railway side.
- commission of a web-based application with user-friendly features for online submission and approval of various plans and drawings related to ROBs/RUBs of National Highway Authority of India/Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (NHAI/MoRTH).
- signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) to eliminate all level crossings on National Highway Corridors by MORTH by construction of ROBs/RUBs at their own cost.
- Also, memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) and Government of Maharashtra for construction of ROBs in their State by Government of Maharashtra on 28.12.2017. This MOU is first of its kind and expected that progress of construction of ROB in State of Maharashtra will improve. All State Govt. has also been advised by Ministry of Railways to come forward to sign similar MOU as signed with State Government of Maharashtra.

By taking pro-active measures in last 4 years (2014-15 to 2017-18) average 1220 ROBs/RUBs have been constructed as compared to 762 ROBs/RUBs constructed in period of 5 years i.e. 2009-10 to 2013-14.

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