GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 881 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024

UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSINGS

881. DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of level crossings across the country at present;
- (b) the details of the total number of Unmanned Level Crossings (LCs) in the country including Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, district, State-wise;
- (c) the deadline fixed by the Government to do away with the unmanned level crossings on all the operational lines;
- (d) whether the Government has fixed any time frame to ensure that all abandoned railway crossings will be safe for people/commuters, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the alternative provisions that the Government has made for the users where the unmanned level crossings have been done away with;
- (f) the number of people killed at level crossings in the country during 2022-23 and the action taken by the Government to minimize such accidents; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to prevent accidents at the railway level crossings?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (g): All Unmanned level crossings (UMLCs) on running lines of Broad Gauge (BG) network of Indian Railway have been eliminated by 31.01.2019.

As on 01.04.2023, there are total 17720 nos. Manned level crossings on the running lines of BG Network of Indian Railway.

Elimination of level crossings (LCs) is a continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railway. Such works are taken up on the basis of its impact on safety in train operations, mobility of trains & impact for road users and feasibility etc.

LCs are eliminated either by providing ROBs/ RUBs in lieu of LCs or through direct closure (for low traffic LCs) or by diversion of road traffic to nearby ROB/RUB/LC depending upon the site conditions.

During the period from 2014-23, total 10,867 Nos. Road Over Bridges (ROBs)/Road Under Bridges (RUBs) were constructed, whereas, during the period from 2004-14, only 4,148 Nos. ROBs/RUBs were constructed on Indian Railways.

During 2022-23, no consequential accident took place at UMLCs existing on Meter Gauge (MG) & Narrow Gauge (NG) sections of Indian Railway network, which are planned for elimination during Gauge conversion of the sections.

Further, following steps have been taken by Indian Railways to minimize rail accidents at LCs in the country:

- Level Crossings having high Rail/Road vehicular traffic are interlocked with signals for enhancing safety.
- Inspection drives are being launched from time to time to ensure availability of basic infrastructure at level crossings such as whistle boards, road warning boards, speed breakers etc.
- Public awareness campaigns/safety slogans are undertaken to create safety consciousness among road users for safe passage at level crossings.
