GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2965 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2016

ACCIDENTS AT UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSINGS

2965. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

SHRI B. SRIRAMULU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the maximum number of accidents involving Indian Railways occur at unmanned level crossings and if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Indian Railways has sought the help of State Governments and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for removing the said unmanned railway crossings and constructing bridges and low height sub-ways at such points;
- (c) if so, the extent to which the railways has been successful in this regard;
- (d) whether the railways has started any intensive publicity drive and social awareness programme for educating road users; and
- (e) if so, the extent to which it has helped in lowering the number of accidents at unmanned railway crossings?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2965 BY SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE, SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT, SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO, SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL, SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV AND SHRI B. SRIRAMULU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.08.2016 REGARDING ACCIDENTS AT UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSINGS.

(a): No, Madam. Year-wise number of consequential train accidents at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users during the last three years from 2013-14 to 2015-16 and the current year (up to 15th July, 2016) is as under:

Year	Number of Accidents at unmanned level crossings	As percentage of total number of consequential train accidents
2013-14	47	39.83 %
2014-15	50	37.04%
2015-16	29	27.10%
2016-17 up to 15 th July, 2016	09	26.47%

- (b) & (c): It is the endeavor 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/unmanned level crossing or subway/Road Under Bridge (RUB)/Road Over Bridge (ROB) by construction of diversion road.
 - Provision of Subways
 - Manning Phased manning of unmanned level crossings which cannot be eliminated by above means.

Generally, consent for elimination of unmanned level crossings by Closure/Merger/Provision of Subways is being taken from the State Government.

- (d) & (e): To educate road users various measures taken by Indian Railways to prevent accidents at unmanned level crossings are as under:-
 - Social awareness campaigns to educate road users with the use of various print and electronic media for observance of safe practices prescribed in Motor Vehicle Act and Indian Railways Act and joint ambush checks along with civil police to counter misadventure in front of approaching trains.
 - SMS Campaigns to create awareness amongst road users.
 - Zonal Railways have also been advised to deploy Gate Mitra/Gate
 Counselors to counsel the road vehicle users for observance of safe practice while negotiating UMLCs.

Due to these measures, accidents at unmanned level crossings have decreased from 50 in 2014-15 to 29 in 2015-16 i.e. decrease of 42%.
