

**Accident at an unmanned level crossing in Rajasthan**

J040. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA  
SULTAN;

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that at least 10 persons were killed and 11 others injured when a train at an unmanned crossing collided with a bus near Balware village in Jalore district in Rajasthan on the 10th January, 1984; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons of the collision and what precaution is being taken to avoid such level crossing accidents at this point?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI C. IK. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) In the level crossing accident involving 265 Dn. Bhildi-Jodhpur Express and a roadways bus at an unmanned crossing near Balwant Station of Northern Railway on 10-1-1984, 8 persons lost their lives and 16 received injuries.

(b) The accident occurred due to negligence of and not taking adequate precaution by the bus driver while negotiating the unmanned level crossing.

At unmanned Level crossings the road signs and speed breakers are provided for the guidance of road users. Publicity and educative campaigns are launched through various media to educate the road users about the safeguards to be adopted while negotiating level crossings. The co-operation of State Government is sought from time to time for rigid observance of Motor Vehicle Rules by the Road users.

**Unmanned railway level crossings**

1641. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA  
SULTAN;

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of unmanned railway level crossings in each railway zone at present;

(b) whether these pose a serious hazard and result in hundreds of lives being lost and several injured;

(c) if so, what is the number of persons killed or injured during each of the last three years in railway level crossing accidents; and

(d) what steps have been taken during these years and are being taken to provide proper safeguards at these level crossings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) As on 31st March, 1983 Railway-wise figures of unmanned level crossings are approximately as under:—

Railway	Number
Central . . . . .	1221
Eastern . . . . .	756
Northern . . . . .	3213
N.E. . . . .	2681
N.F. . . . .	1172
Southern . . . . .	2817
South Central . . . . .	2195
South Eastern . . . . .	3640
Western . . . . .	4936
<b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>	<b>22,531</b>

(b) Unmanned level crossings are generally provided where both rail and road traffic is low. Unmanned level crossings with adequate visibility on either side do not pose any safety hazard provided the road users are safety conscious and follow provisions of Motor Vehicle Act.

(c) The number of persons killed and injured as a result of accidents at unman-

and level crossings during last 3 years is as under:—

Year	Killed	Injured
1981-82 . . . . .	94	139
1982-83 . . . . .	47	68
1983-84 . . . . . (Upto January 1984)	55	156

(d) (i) The Railways undertake periodical census of road and rail traffic at all unmanned level crossings and proposals for manning are processed wherever justified. Also Railways have identified unmanned level crossings where buses regularly ply and are potentially hazardous. The Railway has undertaken a phased programme to man 1600 such potentially hazardous level crossings to be completed in 4 years. Out of these 1200 level crossings will be manned totally at Railways cost and only for 400 level crossings State Governments will be asked to bear initial cost.

(ii) The Railways are providing interlocked lifting barriers at the level crossings close to the cabins within the station yards on a phased programme.

(iii) Stop Boards have been provided on the road approaches at M unmanned level crossings on either side of the level crossings as a warning to the road traffic.

(iv) Whistle Boards have been fixed on the track warning the engine drivers to whistle and be cautious while approaching the unmanned level crossing.

(v) The Ministry of Transport & Shipping have directed all State Government to provide speed breakers at the approaches of unmanned level crossings.

(vi) Surprise checks are being conducted in co-ordination with the State Governments to ensure compliance of safety rules by the road vehicles.

(vii) Rules have been made by State Governments under Motor Vehicle Act that road vehicle drivers should stop short of unmanned level crossings and cross the track with Conductor walking ahead.

#### **Increase in the rate of Stipend payable to interneers and House Surgeons**

1042. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH;

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the rate of stipend payable to interneers and house surgeons in various Government hospitals as recommended by the Sankaran Committee, if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) what were the sale, of stipend|pay recommended by the Sankaran Committee and how far the same have been raised since then; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUD BEN M. JOSHI): (a) to (c) Government of India had not set up any Committee by the name of Sankaran Committee. However, the then Director General of Health Services Dr. Sankaran had made wide ranging recommendations regarding post-graduate medical education which were not found acceptable.

Government of India subsequently decided to increase the rate of stipend from Rs. 450/- per month to Rs. 550/- per month with effect from 1-1-1983 for Interns of all the Central Institutions] Hospitals including Statutory|Autonomous Bodies wholly financed by the Central Government.