

(c) and (d) Funds for these projects is provided as Gross Budgetary Support on yearly basis from Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission. Moreover, steps have been taken to generate extra budgetary resources through State participation, Public Private Partnership, defence funding, declaring some projects as National Projects, revival of Capital Fund and implementation of bankable projects through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited.

Railway connectivity

†2600. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have made any plan to connect Pushkar in Ajmer district to Merta and Naseerabad area in Ajmer to kota by a railway line keeping in view the public demand; and

(b) if so, the outline thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Surveys have been completed for laying new broad gauge lines to connect Pushkar-Merta and Ajmer-Kota. As per the survey reports, Pushkar-Merta new line will pass through Nand, Kod, Riyan and Jesus and the new line between Ajmer-Kota will pass through Nasirabad, Loharwada, Jaswantpura, Goyala, Surajpura, Kekri, Deoli, Motipura and Jalindari.

The proposals for the new lines were sent to Planning Commission for according "In Principle" approval. In respect of Ajmer-Kota (Nasirabad-Jalindri) new line, Planning Commission have not accorded their "In Principle" approval. However, as desired by them, steps have been taken to submit the project proposal to the Expanded Board of Railways (EBR) for consideration.

In respect of Pushkar-Merta new line, Planning Commission's response is awaited.

Unmanned level crossings

2601. DR. T.N. SEEMA: SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing unmanned level crossings;

(b) for accidents taking place between 2004-2009, what percentage of casualties were due to accidents at unmanned level crossings; and

(c) the status of recruitment of staff to man level crossings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The number of existing unmanned level crossings as on 01.04.11 was 14896.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Year-wise number of persons who lost their lives and sustained injuries in incidents at Unmanned Level Crossings during 2004-05 to 2009-10 and their percentage as a proportion of total deaths and injuries respectively, in consequential train accidents during this period is as given below:-

Loss of lives in incidents at UMLCs-

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Number of deaths	173	120	146	148	129	170
Percentage of total deaths due to accidents	73.31%	38.10%	70.19%	77.49%	61.72%	71.43%

Injuries in incidents at UMLCs-

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Number of injured persons	197	124	156	144	142	150
Percentage of total injured persons due to accidents	47.82%	19.78%	38.81%	34.95%	31.98%	37.78%

(c) During the recent past, efforts have been made to fill up about 1.48 lakh vacant posts in Group 'D' Pay Band-I (Grade Pay: Rs 1800) through direct recruitment from open market. During January-March 2012, seven Railways have issued panels aggregating to 27442 through open recruitment. Additional panel of 17992 persons will be supplied by April-May-June, 2012. In addition to the above, all 16 zonal railways have issued notifications for filling up of 85068 vacancies which include vacancies of gangman/gateman. These vacancies include resultant and anticipated vacancies up to December 2012.

Train accidents at unmanned railway crossings

2602. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 15 people were killed and 5 injured in two train accidents at unmanned railway crossings near Hathras and between 'Raja ka Talab' and Itaunja stations in Uttar Pradesh during end of March, 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons identified for these accidents;

(d) whether compensation has been paid to the kins of victims;