

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) There are 455 unmanned level crossings in Karnataka as on 01.04.2013.

(b) The number of consequential incidents at unmanned level crossings in the State of Karnataka during 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 was 1, 4 and Nil respectively.

(c) It has emerged from the analysis of pattern of accidents that manning of unmanned level crossings is not an ideal solution. Therefore, the policy of manning of unmanned level crossings has been reviewed and Hon'ble Minister of Railways (MR) has announced in Budget Speech for elimination of all unmanned level crossings.

Accordingly, Railways have decided to progressively eliminate all unmanned level crossings by:—

- (i) **Closure** – Closing unmanned level crossings having Nil/negligible Train Vehicle Unit (TVU).
- (ii) **Merger** – Merger of unmanned level crossing gate to nearby manned or unmanned gates or subway or Road Under Bridge (RUB) or Road Over Bridge (ROB) by construction of diversion road.
- (iii) **Provision of Subways/RUBs.**
- (iv) **Manning** – The unmanned level crossings which cannot be eliminated by above means will be progressively manned based on rail-road traffic volume, visibility conditions.

#### **Allotment of vending licence**

4151. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any policy/procedure laid down by Government for allotment of curio/miscellaneous article stall contract at railway station platforms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any contractor was allotted vending licence in violation of the railway policy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Miscellaneous Article Policy has been issued *vide* Commercial Circular No. 69/2012 dated 02.11.2012 regarding allotment of Curio/Miscellaneous article stalls at railway stations. The allotment of such stalls are done by the Railways by following the policy guidelines. Under this policy the requirement of the traveling passengers for adequate availability of essential and incidental travel items *viz.* locks, chains, inflatable pillows, towels, napkins, games, toys, toiletry items, batteries, local handicrafts, gift items, curio items, packed snacks/biscuit and beverages, Rail Neer and other approved BIS (Bureau of Indian Standard) certified packaged drinking water bottles, chocolates, mobile recharge coupons, common medicine etc. at station

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Condition for laying new railway lines

†4152. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new railway lines sanctioned by the Ministry with the condition of land to be provided free of cost and 50 per cent cost to be borne by the States, and number of States that have taken positive steps in the above matters;

(b) the State-wise details of new rail lines approved with this condition and details of the States hesitating to adhere to the above conditions; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there is an apprehension of inordinate delay in laying new railway lines due to these two conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The details of the projects sanctioned by Ministry of Railways for which State Governments have agreed to provide land free and share 50% cost of execution of project is given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of project with length (in km.)	State
1	2	3
1.	Nadikude-Srikalahasti (309 km.)	Andhra Pradesh

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.