

Construction of railway over-bridges and underpasses

145. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiative to construct railway over-bridges and underpasses at all railway crossings;
- (b) if so, the details of such program;
- (c) whether many such construction projects are lying idle mid-way due to lack of funds; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken by Government for timely completion of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Indian Railways has taken initiative to construct Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) across Level Crossings (LCs).

These works are constructed on:

- cost sharing basis with the State Government.
- at Railway cost.
- on deposit terms.

Criteria for construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) on cost sharing basis with State Government is as under:

1. Level crossings with Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) more than 1 lakh qualify for replacement by ROBs/RUBs on cost sharing basis.
2. Level Crossings in the following areas with TVU less than 1 lakh can also be considered for replacement by ROB/RUB on cost sharing basis.
 - Suburban sections having high frequency of train services; and
 - Near stations where detentions to road traffic are very high on account of either shunting operations or multi directional receipt/despatch of trains or stabling of trains etc.
 - Wherever Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) running parallel to Indian Railways, all LCs are being eliminated by ROBs/RUBs.

For sanction of these works on cost sharing basis, State Government has to give the consent for:

- closure of LC after commissioning of ROB/RUB,
- sharing of cost,
- providing encumbrance free land on approaches,
- undertaking the maintenance, lighting and drainage work after completion of ROB/RUBs,
- providing diversion route to road traffic to facilitate construction.

Sanction of works ROB/RUBs on Railway cost (*)

- ROB/RUBs are constructed on Railway cost mostly for elimination of unmanned level crossings and some percentage of manned level crossings. In these cases also State Government has to give consent for closure of level crossing, giving land encumbrance free for construction of approaches and to undertake maintenance, drainage and lighting of the roads.

(*) **Note: Construction of ROB/RUBs on Railway cost** is a gigantic task and involves lot of manpower, resources and budgetary support. It is a continuous process and is done as per need, inter-se priority of works, availability of funds and co-operation of State Government, particularly, in getting consent of closure of level crossing and undertaking to maintain road and drainage in future for subways.

Sanction of works of ROB/RUBs on deposit terms:

- These works are sponsored by State Govt/National Highway Authority of India /Public/Pvt. Companies. The construction and maintenance charges for these works are borne by the concerned sponsoring authorities.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Demarcating railway zones

146. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the federal and linguistic priority would be given in demarcating zones by linking adjacent zones and divisions to specific States; and