

1	2	3
27	Uttar Pradesh	8762.30
28	Uttarakhand	344.91
29	West Bengal	3936.89
TOTAL		64459.9

#### Elimination of unmanned level crossings

2281. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon'ble Minister for Railways has announced in the Budget Speech for elimination of all unmanned level crossings in the country;

(b) if so, the number of unmanned level crossings eliminated so far in the country, particularly in Karnataka;

(c) whether Government has fixed any time-frame to eliminate all unmanned level crossings in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The Hon'ble Minister for Railways has mentioned in his Budget Speech 2013-14 that 10,797 level crossings will be eliminated during the 12th Plan.

(b) In the last five year from 2007-08 to 2012-13, Indian Railway have eliminated 5400 unmanned level crossings (3090 by closure, merger & subways and 2310 by manning). During year 2013-14 (upto July'2013), 313 nos. unmanned level crossings (UMLCs) have been eliminated out of which 16 UMLCs have been eliminated in Karnataka.

(c) and (d) It has emerged from the study 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 Ministry of 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.

Elimination of all these Level Crossings 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.

#### **Onboard housekeeping service**

2282. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have any plan to start Onboard House Keeping Service in all Mail/Express trains; and
- (b) the number of Mail/Express trains presently covered under this Service; train-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) **On Board Housekeeping Services (OBHS)** scheme is prescribed in the trains meeting laid down criterion such as nature of train service, journey time/period, pattern of maintenance etc. The scheme has so far been implemented in around 385 trains. Presently, this service is being provided in 23 Rajdhani, 21 Shatabdi, 27 Duronto & 314 other identified long distance Mail/Express trains for frequent cleaning of coach toilets, doorways, aisles & passenger compartments during the run of the trains. Other important trains as identified by Zonal Railways are also planned for provision of OBHS.