

Electrification work on Meerut–Delhi railway route

†2700. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the electrification work on Meerut–Delhi railway route of the Northern Railway has been completed;
- (b) if so, the time when this work was completed;
- (c) whether operation of electrical trains including EMU has started on the abovesaid railway route;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for delay and by when the operation of electrical EMU is likely to start on the said railway route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) On Delhi-Meerut railway route, Delhi-Ghaziabad section is already electrified. Electrification work on Ghaziabad-Meerut section has been completed. Opening of the section on electric traction can be done after statutory inspection and authorization by Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS).

(c) to (e) Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) are already in operation on Delhi–Ghaziabad section. Presently, there is no proposal for operation of EMU train in Ghaziabad-Meerut section.

Confirmation of tickets of trains running in Andhra Pradesh

2701. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that a number of wait-listed train tickets are not confirmed for trains running in Andhra Pradesh
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Railway in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Demand for reserved accommodation including that for trains running in Andhra Pradesh, varies from season to season. During the peak periods such as festivals, summer holidays, winter holidays etc. the demand, normally exceeds availability, resulting in some tickets remaining waitlisted.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) In order to generate additional accommodation for passengers in express trains passing through important cities of Andhra Pradesh, Indian Railways to the extent feasible and justified, not only operate special trains but also augment the number of coaches of existing trains to create extra accommodation for travelling passengers.

Accidents on unmanned level crossings

2702. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that recently in Hisar district of Haryana, 12 people were killed in an accident on the unmanned railway crossing;

(b) if so, the details of accidents on unmanned crossings during this year and the last two years and the total number of deaths reported; and

(c) the budget provision of Special Railway Safety Fund and the number of unmanned railway crossings likely to be covered under this fund and the amount of money and time required to cover all the unmanned railway crossings in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) On 26.01.2015 at 09.15 hrs, while the Train No. 54632 Dn Dhuri-Sirsa Passenger was on run between Barwala and Dhansu railway stations on Jakhal-Hissar Section of Ambala Division of Northern Railway, one road vehicle (Tata Ace) dashed against its train engine at Unmanned Level Crossing No. 43/C. In this unfortunate incident, 12 occupants of the road vehicle lost their lives, 02 occupants suffered grievous injury and 01 occupant suffered simple injury. As per the findings of Departmental Inquiry Committee, the incident was caused due to failure of the road vehicle driver in observing the laid down precautions while negotiating the unmanned level crossing.

(b) Year-wise number of consequential train accidents at unmanned level crossings during the last two years *i.e.* 2012-13, 2013-14 and the current year (upto February, 2015), and the loss of lives involved therein, is as under:

Year	No. of Accidents	Loss of Lives
2012-13	53	124
2013-14	47	98
2014-15 (upto February, 2015)	45	124
TOTAL	145	346

(c) No fund in the name Special Railway Safety Fund exists in Railways. However, Railway Safety Fund has been set up in 2001 to finance Road Safety Works for level