

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Indian Railways accord a very high priority for ensuring cleanliness and hygiene at stations. However, owing to the high density of usage of the stations and the trains, this is a very challenging area. Based on the inspection reports and references received, cases on inadequate cleanliness come to notice from time to time.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. To ensure proper cleanliness at stations, alongwith regular checks/inspections, surprise checks at various levels are carried out and deficiencies are made good whenever noticed. Service Improvement Groups(SIGs) at the zonal/divisional headquarters and station levels have been activated to inspect amenities including cleanliness at stations and to take remedial measures as and when required. These measures are reviewed on a monthly basis by Additional General Managers(AGMs) at zonal level and by Additional Divisional Railway Managers(ADRM)s at divisional level.

(d) Indian Railways has adopted several measures which include introduction of mechanized cleaning process, award of rag picking/garbage disposal contracts, introduction of 'pay & use' toilet scheme, etc. to improve the cleanliness condition at stations. Health Inspectors are deployed at major stations of Indian Railways to monitor hygiene and sanitation at stations. Rules have been notified to penalize persons affecting cleanliness and hygiene at railway premises. Instructions have been issued to Zonal Railways to use Close Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) to monitor cleanliness at railway premises.

Under the 'Swachh Bharat Mission', regular events on cleanliness are planned and organized at railway premises. The focus of Indian Railways under the 'Swachh Bharat Mission' is to ensure clean and hygienic toilets, maintenance of cleanliness at railway premises, tree plantation, removal of encroachments, improving drainage, public awareness campaign and periodic monitoring of the mission.

Manning unmanned level crossings

†*149 SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around sixty-six per cent of train accidents occur on unmanned level crossings in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating the total number of train accidents that had occurred on unmanned level crossings during the last five years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the action plan to go ahead for manning of all unmanned railway level crossings; and

(d) the time-frame within which the above people-friendly project would cover all the railway network in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Year-wise number of consequential train accidents at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users during the last five years from 2010-11 to 2014-15 and the percentage of these accidents in relation to total number of consequential train accidents in each year, is given below:

| Year | Number of accidents at unmanned level crossings | As percentage of total number of consequential train accidents |
|---------|--|---|
| 2010-11 | 48 | 34.04 % |
| 2011-12 | 54 | 41.22 % |
| 2012-13 | 53 | 43.44 % |
| 2013-14 | 47 | 39.83 % |
| 2014-15 | 50 | 37.04 % |

Zone-wise number of such consequential train accidents at unmanned level crossings during the last five years from 2010-11 to 2014-15, is given below :

| Railway | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Central | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Eastern | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| East Central | 5 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 5 |
| East Coast | 0 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| North Central | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| North Eastern | 7 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| Northeast Frontier | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| North Western | 5 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 8 |
| Northern | 7 | 13 | 13 | 6 | 9 |
| South Central | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 |

| Railway | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| South Eastern | 5 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Southeast Central | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| South Western | 1 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| Southern | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| West Central | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Western | 6 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| TOTAL | 48 | 54 | 53 | 47 | 50 |

(c) and (d) It is the endeavour of Indian Railways to eliminate all unmanned level crossings by Manning/ Closure/ Merger and provision of Subways/ Road Under Bridges subject to availability of funds.

During the last three years, *i.e.*, from 2012-13 to 2014-15, 3,413 unmanned level crossings have been eliminated from the Indian Railways which include 1,215 by manning. At present, Indian Railways has 10,440 unmanned level crossings, which require approximately ₹ 20,400 crores for their elimination. Funding for these works comes from the Central Road Fund (CRF) as a percentage of the cess collected on petrol and diesel. The average annual allocation to Railways has been ₹ 1,100-1,300 crore only, which is very meager. To address the issue of constraint of funds, Ministry of Railways has approached Ministry of Finance for enhanced allotment of funds by suitably amending the Central Road Fund Act.

Tie-up with e-commerce companies

* 150. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are working on a special scheme to tie-up with emerging e-commerce companies for transportation of their parcels;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the objectives of the scheme;

(c) whether initial deliberations have been held and suggestions sought from all major online retailers, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government on the suggestions received and by when the scheme is likely to be operational?