

Year	Amount paid in unmanned level crossing (in ₹)
2012-13	0
2013-14	8,71,594
2014-15	1,68,856
2015-16 (upto 2015)	0

Note: Compensation paid in a year need not necessarily relate to the accidents/casualties in that year alone. The amount depends upon the number of cases which are finalized in a particular year by the Railway Claims Tribunals (RCTs) irrespective of the year(s) in which the accidents they pertain to, have occurred.

Proposal to run trains at 200 kmph

2197. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working on a proposal to run Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Durgam Cheruvu at the speed of 200 kmph, in some select corridors, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any consultancy firm has been engaged to make a feasibility study and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No such proposal has been finalised.

(b) As a part of co-operation on the rail sector with China, China Railway Eryuan Group has been entrusted with feasibility study of Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysore corridor for raising the speed of passenger trains to 160 kmph at their cost.

Connectivity with NE region

2198. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has asked both the Centre and the States to make a blue print ready for second round of connectivity with the seven States of North East (NE) region for flow of grains and goods, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the main problems coming up in the way of fast movement of essential commodities to NE region; and

(c) the status of stranded railway projects in NE region with an action plan for fast completion of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Ministry of Railways is not aware of any specific instructions from the Prime Minister regarding blue print for second round of connectivity with the North Eastern States. Progress of NE region projects along with other important Railway projects is reviewed at all levels including Hon'ble Prime Minister during periodical reviews of infrastructure sectors to ensure speedy completion of ongoing projects and improving access to North East through improved connectivity.

(b) The existing railway network in North East region mainly falls in Assam and Tripura only. Low rail network density to other North East States is also an impediment in faster movement of essential commodities to North East region.

(c) Following new lines are stranded projects in North Eastern Region:

Sl. No.	Name of project (Length)	Status
1.	Sivok-Rangpo (44 km.)	Anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 3375 crore. An expenditure of ₹ 183 crore has been incurred upto March, 2015 and an outlay of ₹ 230 crore has been provided for 2015-16. Project has been suffering due to issues related to land acquisition and forestry clearances.
2.	Agartala-Akhaura (13 km.)	Anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 252 crore. An expenditure of ₹ 155 crore has been incurred upto March, 2015 and an outlay of ₹ 148 crore has been provided for 2015-16. The project is held up due to abnormal increase in cost of land by State Government.
3.	Agartala-Sabroom (110 km.)	Anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 1741 crore. An expenditure of ₹ 947 crore has been incurred upto March, 2015 and an outlay of ₹ 455 crore has been provided for 2015-16. The project suffered on account of delay in forestry clearances. However, stage-II (Final) approval from MoEF for 188.11 Ha. normal forest land has been obtained on 22.06.2015.

Sl. No.	Name of project (Length)	Status
4.	Byrnihat-Shillong (108 km.)	Anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 4083 crore. An expenditure of ₹ 14 crore has been incurred upto March, 2015 and an outlay of ₹ 10 crore has been provided for 2015-16. Project held up due to protest of Khasi Student's Union for their demands with State Government.

Regular co-ordination meetings are held up with State Governments and other Ministries of Government of India to expedite approvals and to remove impediments for these projects.

Representations for gauge conversions in Gujarat

2199. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received representations for gauge conversion of railway tracks from various organizations/ road users as well as from Government of Gujarat, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when the work is likely to start along with the probable time-frame for completion of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Representations, both formal as well as informal, from various organizations, users, elected representatives etc. are received from time to time at various levels in Railways including Divisional Headquarters, Zonal Headquarters and Railway Board. A centralized compendium of such representations is not maintained.

However, 13 surveys for gauge conversion falling fully/partly in the State of Gujarat have been completed during the last five years and current year (2010-11 to 2014-15 and 2015-16). Out of these completed surveys, four gauge conversion projects have been sanctioned after requisite clearances from Government. The details are as under: