

(c) whether the Ministry will consider appointing TTEs or Coachs Masters in every coach to prevent this, if so, by when, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) During the years 2011 to 2015, total 84388 complaints of theft of passengers' belongings were registered by the Government Railway Police. Total 7159 complaints of unauthorized entry and occupation of floor space for overnight travel in sleeper coaches have been received in the zonal railways.

(b) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP).

However, to check unauthorized entry in reserved coaches, periodical drives are conducted by Commercial Department, assisted by Railway Protection Force and action is taken as per the provisions of Indian Railways Act, 1989.

(c) It is practically not feasible to appoint ticket checking staff for every coach as it will put huge financial burden and will result in underutilisation of manpower.

Bogibeel bridge

281. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the year plan for completion of construction of Rail-cum-Road bridge over Brahmaputra at Bogibeel;

(b) the reasons for delay in completing construction of the bridge; and

(c) the action taken against the officials and contractor responsible for delay in completing construction of the bridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Construction of Rail-cum-Road bridge over the Brahmaputra at Bogibeel with linking lines (73 km) has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 4996 crore. An expenditure of ₹ 4129 crore has been incurred upto March, 2016 and an outlay of ₹ 598 crore has been provided in 2016-17.

The project has mainly suffered in the past on account of inadequate availability of funds, apart from delays in land acquisition and forestry clearances which were beyond the control of Railways.

To expedite the completion of work, the annual outlays have been enhanced,

and against an allotment of ₹ 340 crore in the year 2013-14, budget allotments of ₹ 600 crore and ₹ 701 crore have been made in the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. Allotment of ₹ 598 crore has been made in the year 2016-17.

All the 42 well foundations and piers have been completed. 28 out of 41 girders have been launched. Works of both North and South guide bunds, 44 km long rail link from Chaulkhowa to Moranhat, 14 km long North bank rail link and 8 km long South bank rail link have also been completed.

Train accidents at unmanned railway level crossings

282. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the safety measures the Ministry is taking/proposes to take for preventing accidents at unmanned railway crossings in view of the number of train accidents, including at unmanned railway level crossings;

(b) the type of upgraded technology Government is bringing in the country in all spheres of railway operations and infrastructure to prevent accidents and to enhance safety; and

(c) by when this upgraded technology will be in operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) It is the endeavour of Railways to eliminate all Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) in a phased manner by either of the following:

- **Closure** – Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/Negligible Train Vehicle Unit (TVU).
- **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.
- **Provision of Subways/RUBs**
- **Manning** – Phased manning of unmanned level crossings which cannot be eliminated by above means.

Ministry of Railways has announced a specific sub-mission to eliminate all unmanned level crossings on Broad Gauge in next 3-4 years.

Research Designs and Standards Organization (RDSO) is developing vandal proof rugged Train approach based warning system for unmanned L.C. Gates in association with IIT/Kanpur and Space Application Centre/Ahmedabad. Besides,