

Loss of lives at unmanned level crossings

†2391. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of lives are lost every year in the country on account of unmanned railway crossings;

(b) if so, the number of such unmanned railway crossings in the country as on date, the State-wise list thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has formulated any plan to bring down the number of unmanned railway crossings in the country; and

(d) if so, the funds released and provisioned during the financial year 2016-17 and 2017-18 for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Zone-wise number of consequential unmanned level crossing accidents (UMLC) and deaths therein during the last year *i.e.* 2016-17 and in the current year 2017-18 (upto 15th July 2017) are as under:

Railway	2016-17		2017-18	
	No. of UMLC accidents	No. of Persons killed	No. of UMLC accidents	No. of Persons killed
1	2	3	4	5
Central				
East Coast				
East Central	4	6	1	2
Eastern	1	1		
North Central	1	1	2	6
North Eastern	2	9	1	5
Northeast Frontier	3	4		
Northern	4	9		
North Western	2	3		
South Central				
South East Central				
South Eastern	1	1		

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5
Southern				
South Western	2	6		
West Central				
Western				
Konkan				
Metro				
TOTAL	20	40	4	13

(b) State-wise number of unmanned level crossings on Broad Gauge and Narrow Gauge over Indian Railways as on 01.04.2017 is as under:

Sl. No.	State	Number of Unmanned Level Crossings on Broad Gauge (as on 01.04.2017)	Number of Unmanned Level Crossings on Meter/Narrow Gauge (as on 01.04.2017)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	272	0
2.	Assam	141	0
3.	Bihar	540	269
4.	Chandigarh	0	0
5.	Chattisgarh	15	25
6.	Delhi	1	0
7.	Goa	0	0
8.	Gujarat	791	1104
9.	Haryana	92	0
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2	4
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	0
12.	Jharkhand	113	0
13.	Karnataka	253	0
14.	Kerala	7	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	46	336
16.	Maharashtra	76	192
17.	Manipur	0	0

1	2	3	4
18.	Mizoram	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0
20.	Odisha	223	0
21.	Puducherry	2	0
22.	Punjab	334	0
23.	Rajasthan	472	333
24.	Tamil Nadu	333	111
25.	Telangana	37	0
26.	Tripura	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	904	208
28.	Uttarakhand	26	9
29.	West Bengal	262	167
TOTAL		4943	2758

(c) As per extant policy, no new level crossings are being provided on existing lines, as level crossings are safety hazard for both rail and road users more so for road users. Moreover, Ministry of Railways has announced a specific sub-mission to eliminate all unmanned level crossings on Broad Gauge by March 2020.

(d) The budget allotment for level crossing and Road Over Bridge/Road Under bridge works, including elimination of unmanned level crossings, during 2016-17 and 2017-18 is ₹ 3745.47 crore and ₹ 5217.30 crore respectively.

Solar EMU coaches in Howrah and Sealdah divisions

2392. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to introduce solar EMU coaches in the local trains plying in the Howrah and Sealdah divisions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) At present, Electrical Multiple Units (EMU) draws power for lights and fans through Head On Generation (HOG) system which is most energy efficient and cost effective for rolling stock as compared to existing Solar panel technology available in the country.