

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
18.	25.10.2017	MLC Accident	Northern	Moradabad	22453 Up	1	5	3
19.	29.10.2017	UMLC Accident	North Western	Jodhpur	22482	1	1	1
20.	23.11.2017	UMLC Accident	Northern	Lucknow	64282	4	2	0
21.	24.11.2017	Derailment	North Central	Jhansi	12741	3	5	4
TOTAL						94	89	153

* K-Killed, G-Grievous Injury and S-Simple Injury

@Unmanned Level Crossing (UMLC)

(d) and (e) Development of new rail project and replacement of old and dilapidated tracks is an ongoing continuous process on Indian Railways. Railway tracks are changed as and when a stretch of tracks becomes due for renewal on age-cum-condition basis, traffic carried over the track and physical condition of track etc. except meter gauge (MG) track which are due for gauge conversion. In case any stretch of track is not renewed in time due to various reasons suitable speed restriction, if necessary, is imposed to ensure safe running of trains. The target (in track kms.) for track renewal has also been increased from 2500 km. in 2015-16 to 3600 km. in 2017-18 *i.e.* an increased of 44%.

Adequate funds are provided for safety related works from time to time. The allocation for safety related works has been increased from ₹42,304 crores in 2014-15 to ₹68,797 crores in 2017-18 which is an increase of about 62%. An exclusive fund called “Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh” (RRSK) has been made with a corpus of ₹1 lakh crores over a period of 5 years for giving a major boost to safety related works over Indian Railways. These funds will be used for improving safety of tracks, rolling stock and proliferation of other safety technologies and training of staff.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Transparency in Selection Examination of Agricultural Scientists

†1. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the selection examination of Agricultural Scientists was caught in controversies and the result was declared only after the advice of the Law Ministry;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government would take steps to make the selection examination of Agriculture Scientists more transparent and to select the deserving Scientists; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Production of wheat

2. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for wheat in the country will reach 140 million tonnes by 2050, according to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the country has so far recorded huge growth in wheat production, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Sir, at 5.25 per cent growth rate in national Gross Domestic Product (GDP), it is estimated that the demand for wheat will reach 140 million tonnes by 2050. In case of high growth rate in national GDP (at 7 per cent), the demand for wheat may go up to 150 million tonnes by 2050.

(b) There has been a significant progress in wheat production in the country during past one decade (2006-07 to 2016-17). The production of wheat increased from 75.81 million tonnes in 2006-07 to 98.38 million tonnes in 2016-17 at a compound growth rate of 2.7 per cent per annum.

Post Harvest Losses

3. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is one of the top countries for the losses of agricultural commodities during post harvesting period, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the effective and concrete measures Government has taken or proposes to take to substantially reduce losses of post harvesting agri commodities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) As per Report