

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2806
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001
ACCIDENT AT LEVEL CROSSING
RAMCHANDRA PASWAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a bus-train collision was occurred on May31, 2001 at an unmanned level crossing between Gola Gokaran Nath and Rajaganj Railway Station near Phalia Bujurg on Lucknow- Mailani section of the North-Eastern Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of persons killed as a result thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to avoid such type of accidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (c) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2806 ASKED BY SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN AND SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.08.2001 REGARDING ACCIDENT AT LEVEL CROSSING.

(a) & (b) : No, Sir. However, on 30.05.2001, there was an accident of dashing of Bus with Train Engine of 175 Up Passenger train while passing through unmanned level crossing between Gola Gokaran Nath & Rajaganj stations on Sitapur-Mailani section on Lucknow Division on North Eastern Railway. Casualties in this accidents are as under:-

Killed	-	22	(All Bus occupants)
Grievously Injured	-	7	
Simple Injuries	-	24	

Accidents at unmanned level crossings are primarily due to negligence of road users, since a train travelling at high speed cannot be stopped all of a sudden when a road vehicle comes on the track. A train traveling at 90 KMPH covers 25 m/sec. Thus, although to the road users the train appears to be 150 metres away, in terms of time it is only 6 seconds away. This message is being conveyed to them progressively by various publicity measures.

(c) : Following steps have been taken to avoid such type of accidents :-

1. Proper Road Signs have been provided on approaches to level crossings so that road vehicle drivers become aware of the existence of a level crossing gate.
2. Speed breakers/rumble strips have been provided on approaches to level crossing gates so that road vehicle drivers are reminded to reduce their speed.
3. Whistle boards are also provided alongside the rail track on approach to level crossings. Train drivers are required to whistle from the whistle board till such time as the train passes the level crossing gate in order to warn road users about the approaching train. Periodic drives are launched for checking whether drivers are actually whistling from such whistle boards.
4. To educate road drivers about safety at unmanned level crossings, publicity campaigns are periodically launched through various media like quickies on TV, cinema slides, posters, talks on radio, newspaper advertisements and street plays.
5. Since accidents at unmanned level crossings take place due to negligence of road users, the State Governments can also help by exercising strict checks while issuing driving licences, specially to drivers of trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles. All State Governments have been requested to co-operate in educating road users.
6. Joint Ambush Checks with civil authorities are conducted to nab errant road vehicle drivers under the provisions of the Motor

Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Railways Act, 1989.

7. Involvement of village Panchayats in the railways public awareness programs is also being done.

8. Permission has been received from some of the State Governments for putting up L-xing Safety posters at Village Panchayat Offices.

9. Permission has also been received from IOC/HPC/BPC for putting up L-Xing Safety posters at retail petrol pumps.