

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5994  
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2000  
RAIL BUS ACCIDENT NEAR DALHOUSIE ROAD STATION  
RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a rail-bus accident took place at a level crossing between nurpur and Dalhousie Road Station on march 7, 2000;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore;
- (c) the loss of life and Government property therein; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to stop recurrence of such type of accident ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The cause of the accident has been attributed to the negligence of bus driver who failed to observe safety precautions before crossing the unmanned level crossing.
- (c) In this accident, 10 bus passengers lost their lives and 35 bus passengers were injured, out of which 10 were grievously injured. Damaged to Government property was estimated at Rs.13,400/-.
- (d) A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART(d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5994 BY SHRI R.L. BHATIA BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 04.05.2000 REGARDING RAIL-BUS ACCIDENT NEAR DALHOUSIE ROAD STATION

(d) The following steps are being taken to prevent recurrence of such 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. Road users have still not got used to the faster speeds of mail/Express trains. A train traveling at 90 KMPH covers 25 m/second. Thus, although to the road users the train appears to be 150 meters away, in terms of time it is only 6 seconds away. This message is being conveyed to them by various publicity measures.
5. 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.
6. Since accidents at unmanned level crossings take place due to negligence of road users, the Statements can also help by exercising strict checks while issuing driving licences, specially to drivers of trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles. All Chief Secretaries have been requested to cooperate in educating road users.
7. 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.
8. Involvement of village Panchayats in the railways public awareness programs is also being done.