

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1482  
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2003  
BRIDGE INSPECTION AND MANAGEMENT  
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

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

- (a) whether the team of officers that visited USA, Canada, Denmark and Italy for on-the-spot assessment of bridge inspection and management systems there has submitted its tour report to the Government;
- (b) if so, when and the salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have studied the said study report;
- (d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon; and
- (e) if not, the time by which the Government are likely to complete the study of the tour report?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The team returned on 28.11.2002 and submitted its report on 14.01.2003. The team studied the systems of bridge inspections and management. It was seen that abroad also bridges are rebuilt on age-cum-condition basis and not on age basis alone. The same practice is followed on Indian Railways. Certain recommendations have been made regarding use of Non-destructive testing equipments, under water inspections, Bridges Management System etc. for Indian Railways.

(c) to (e): The report has been examined critically by the concerned technical Directorate of Railway Board and improvements proposed for the quick and meaningful implementation of the technologies required. Some action has already been initiated towards procurement of non-destructive equipment for Railways. However, the suggestions are to be examined for their financial implications and final view is expected to be taken shortly.