

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:175
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2002
OLD RAIL BRIDGES
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that around 51,000 bridges are more than 100 years old;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the average age of bridges in the country;
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to repair and renovate those over aged bridges; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a)to(e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.175 BY SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA AND SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 25.07.2002 REGARDING OLD RAIL BRIDGES

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Age profile of these bridges are as under:

Year of construction Total number of Railway Bridges built

Upto 1860	3751
1860-1870	8708
1870-1880	9375
1880-1890	13331
1890-1900	16175

Grand Total 51340

(c) to (e): The rehabilitation & rebuilding of railway bridges is not decided merely on basis of age but on age-cum-physical condition basis and technical consideration. Therefore, concept of average age is not used in context of Railway Bridges. Besides the normal programme of rehabilitation and rebuilding of bridges under Depreciation Reserve Fund(DRF), Railways have undertaken a special programme of rehabilitation & rebuilding of approximately 3000 bridges at an estimated cost of Rs.1530 crores out of Special Railway Safety Fund(SRFS) over next 5 to 6 years.