

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:247
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2004
RAILWAY BRIDGES IN NORTH EASTERN STATES
Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has investigated construction work of railway bridges in North Eastern States as reported by Rashtriya Shahara, dated November 09, 2004;
- (b) if so, total number of railway bridges under construction in North Eastern States;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the construction was of inferior quality and not as per approved maps;
- (e) total number of years during which these bridges are likely to be safe for railway traffic and the passengers;
- (f) whether the Government propose to issue orders for reconstructions of these bridges; and
- (g) the time by which action is taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

- (a): A newspaper report published in Rashtriya Shahara, dated November,09,2004 refers to North Eastern Railway. As such, Hon'ble MP is perhaps referring to North Eastern Railway and not to North Eastern States. The inspection and checks of railway bridges during various stages of construction are carried out as a normal course. During the checks if any deficiencies are noticed, the same are rectified. As such, no separate investigation has been done.
- (b): The number of bridges under construction varies from time to time. However, at present total 20 major Railway Bridges are being constructed in the North Eastern Railway.
- (c) & (d):The construction is being done strictly as per approved drawings, designs and in accordance with quality criteria, which are very well laid down in relevant Railway Codes and Manuals. The bridges are expected to complete their full service life.
- (e) to (g): Do not arise.