

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:576

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2003

FREIGHT EARNINGS

CHANDRA NATH SINGH;NVEDITA MANE;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the railway freight earnings have declined during 1st half of current financial year as compared by the corresponding period last year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase its margins and control the expenses;
- (d) the details of the target set by the Government in revenue receipt during the current financial year;
- (e) whether the above target has been achieved; and
- (f) if not, the reasons for the same?

Answer

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

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): Railways are working under an Action Plan which envisages following steps to augment earnings besides containing the expenditure:

- i Rationalisation of freight structure and flexible tariff to counter the market competition.
- ii Running of new trains and extension of various mail/express passenger trains to cater to the passenger traffic across the country.
- iii Continuous drives against ticket-less travel.
- iv More delegation to General Managers in respect of `Station To Station` rates.
- v Drive for realisation of outstanding dues.
- vi Better manpower management for improvement in per capita productivity.
- vii Energy conservation.
- viii Efficient utilisation of assets.
- ix Reduction in equipment failure.
- x Stringent financial and budgetary control through the mechanism of fixation of spending limits and monthly budget proportions and also through control on cash outgo.
- xi Austerity in areas of hospitality, publicity, advertisement etc.

(d): The target of Gross Traffic Receipts as envisaged in the Budget, 2003-04 is as under:

Passenger earnings	Rs. 13,620 cr.
Other Coaching earnings	Rs. 1,020 cr.
Goods earnings	Rs. 27,815 cr.
Sundry earnings	Rs. 990 cr.

Gross earnings	Rs.43,445 cr.
Traffic Suspense	Rs. 50 cr.
Gross Traffic Receipts	Rs. 43,495 cr.

(e) & (f): The approximate total earnings to end of October, 2003 at Rs.23,969 cr. constitute 55.17% of Gross Earnings target. The position is being closely monitored.