

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:238  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2004  
RAILWAY ZONES UNDER RAILWAY BOARD  
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**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of Railway Zones now operating under the Railway Board;
- (b) the details of norms for formation of Railway Zones;
- (c) whether regional imbalance in Railway development and the rectification of the same is a consideration in this respect; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) The following 16 Railway Zones are operational at present:-

1. Central Railway, Mumbai
2. Eastern Railway, Kolkata
3. East Central Railway, Hajipur
4. East Coast Railway, Bhubaneswar
5. Northern Railway, New Delhi
6. North Central Railway, Allahabad
7. North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur
8. Northeast Frontier Railway, Guwahati
9. North Western Railway, Jaipur
10. Southern Railway, Chennai
11. South Central Railway, Secunderabad
12. South Eastern Railway, Kolkata
13. South East Central Railway, Bilaspur
14. South Western Railway, Hubli
15. Western Railway, Mumbai
16. West Central Railway, Jabalpur

(b) Railway Zones are set up keeping in view the factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic patterns and other operating/administrative requirements etc. consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.