GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:632 ANSWERED ON:25.02.2010 ROLE OF PRIVATE PLAYERS IN RAILWAYS Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are considering to open various aspects in the railways for private players;
- (b) if so, the details of the areas proposed to be opened for private players;
- (c) whether the Railways have been facing a paucity of funds;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

- (a) & (b): Certain areas such as development of world -class stations, establishment of super specialty hospitals/medical colleges, setting up of manufacturing units for rolling stock, setting up of perishable cargo centres and infrastructure projects for port connectivity through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and several activities in catering/tourism and hospitality area have been identified for possible execution through public-private partnership/Joint Venture/Special Purpose Vehicle route.
- (c): Yes, Madam.
- (d): As per Vision 2020 Document of Ministry of Railways, capacity augmentation and modernization of railways would require around Rs.14,00,000 crore over the next 10 years. Requirement of funds on this scale cannot be met by internal generation alone. A judicious mix of internal generation, prudent borrowing, PPP initiatives and budgetary support is needed.
- (e): Planning and resource mobilisation is a continuous and ongoing exercise in which all avenues of resources are tapped. Some of the measures already taken to mobilise resources include: borrowing through Indian Railway Finance Corporation(IRFC), licensing of private operators to enter rail-borne container business, Wagon Investment Schemes and partnership with State Governments and private sector bodies through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode, for rail infrastructure projects.