GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6768 ANSWERED ON:06.05.2010 RAILWAY PROJECT IN KASHMIR Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways conceived a project to connect Kashmir Valley with rail link eight years ago;
- (b) if so, the total expenditure incurred by Railways on this project so far;
- (c) whether terrorists recently attacked rail track on this line;
- (d) if so, whether Railways have carried out detailed feasibility, viability and security of the project in view of the recent attack by terrorists on rail tracks; and
- (e) if so, the future strategy chalked out by the Railways for security of this project?

Answer

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

- (a): The work of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line was included in Budget 1994-95.
- (b): An expenditure of Rs. 6217.80 crore has been incurred by Railways on the project till 31.03.2010.
- (c): A blast took place on 01.04.2010 at about 21.30 hrs. on the railway track in Qazigund-Baramulla section.
- (d) & (e): Policing on Railways` is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are, therefore the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. In this context, a high Level Co-ordination meeting of the concerned Security Agencies was held at Srinagar on 03.04.2010. The security of railway track, stations etc. and trains has been suitably enhanced. A comprehensive security plan has been chalked out.