

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2035

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2011

RAIL SAFETY FUND

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Mishra Shri Govind Prasad;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that funds for taking safety measures have been curtailed over the past two years;
- (b) if so, whether the allocation under the capital development fund has been axed;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Indian Railways are reeling under huge losses; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Railways to make up the loss suffered and to allocate sufficient funds for safety measures and development activities?

**Answer**

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

(a): No, Madam. Safety has always been accorded the highest priority by the Indian Railways and expenditure on safety related activities forms part of both Plan and non-Plan outlays.

(b) & (c): While the non-Plan expenditure on safety related activities was Rs.23,140 cr in 2009-10 and Rs.22,375 cr in 2010-11, the Plan expenditure has increased from Rs.7,516 cr in 2009-10 to Rs.8,327 cr in 2010-11. However, with the implementation of VI Central Pay Commission recommendations, the resource availability with Railways has come under strain, thus limiting the ability of the Railways to further enhance allocations. Safety related works have however, been suitably prioritised to make optimum utilisation of available resources.

(d) & (e): No, Madam. However, the Excess generated by the Railways after payment of dividend has come down from Rs.4,456.78 cr in 2008-09 to Rs.0.75 cr in 2009-10. With the impact of VI Central Pay Commission recommendations stabilising and improvement in earnings of the Railways, the excess has improved to Rs.1,405 cr in 2010-11, as the earnings have registered a healthy growth of 8.5% in 2010-11. The internal resources are expected to improve in the coming years which would allow the Railways to allocate more funds including for safety and development related expenditure.