

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:680

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2011

MEASURES TO IMPROVE RAILWAYS FINANCES

M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Virendra Kumar Shri

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

- (a) whether the Railways have increased the freight charges for all commodities recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the impact thereof on the prices of all the essential commodities;
- (c) the extant to which such a hike is likely to improve the financial condition of the Railways;
- (d) whether the Railways also propose to hike the passenger fares to address their financial problems;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the other steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Railways to improve their financial condition ?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 680 BY SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR, SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR, DR. M. THAMBIDURAI AND SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAI SI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.11.2011 REGARDING MEASURES TO IMPROVE RAILWAYS FINANCES.

(a) Busy Season Surcharge and Development Charge at marginally enhanced rates have come into effect from 15.10.2011.

(b) The assessed impact of the increased rates on the prices of essential commodities is expected to be negligible; for example, the increase per kg per 1000 km is 05 paise in the case of Foodgrains and Fertilizers, 04 paise in the case of Salt and Sugar, 03 paise in the case of Onions and 06 paise in the case of Edible oils.

(c) It is estimated that Railways would earn about Rs.1914 crores during the remaining part of the current Financial Year from the levy of these surcharges.

(d) At present, there is no proposal for increasing passenger fares.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Evaluation of various alternatives relating to rationalization of the fare and freight structures is an on-going process. Such exercises are yet exploratory in nature.