

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:137
ANSWERED ON:02.07.2009
EARNINGS FROM FREIGHT CARRIAGE
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the International economic slowdown has affected the earnings of the Railways received from freight carriage;
- (b) if so, the extent of decline in freight carriage of the Railways;
- (c) the total losses incurred to the Railways during 2008-09 and 2009-10 under this head; and
- (d) if so, the efforts being made by the Railways to overcome the losses?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Although the overall goods earnings during 2008-09 grew at 12.6% over 2007-08 showing an increase of Rs.5998.50 crore over 2007-08, the revised budgetary target for 2008-09 however could not be met due to economic slow down in the latter half of the fiscal year. Against the revised budgetary target for 2008-09 for Rs.55293 crore, the approximate actuals are Rs.53433 crore only. The overall growth rate in loading in 2008-09 was 4.9%. In the first half of 2008-09 the growth rate in loading was 8.5% which came down to 1.8% in the second half of 2008-09. In the first two months of the current fiscal, 2009-10, growth rate in loading is 2.8%. Efforts are being made to take measures to stimulate traffic demand and also to encourage long lead traffic.