GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1127 ANSWERED ON:17.07.2014 REVISION OF PASSENGER AND FREIGHT FARES CHARGES Ahmed Shri Sultan ;Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy;Jayadevan Shri C. N.;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Kumar Shri Shailesh (Bulo

Mandal);Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Nayak Shri B.V.;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have increased/revised passenger fare and freight charges including fare for monthly season ticket;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, class-wise;

(c) if so, the revenue likely to be generated as a result of hike in passenger fare/freight charges; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the Railways to ensure improved passenger services and amenities and timely execution of pending projects?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1127 BY SHRI SULTAN AHMED, SHRI R.DHRUVA NARAYANA, SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH, SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK, SHRI C.N.JAYADEVEN, SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB, SHRI SATAV RAJEEV, SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI, SHRI B.V.NAIK AND SHRI SHAILESH KUMAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 17.07.2014 REGARDING REVISION OF PASSENGER AND FREIGHT FARES/CHARGES.

a) Yes, Madam.

b) The details of the passenger fare and freight rate revision effective from 25.6.2014 are as under:

i. The passenger fares for all classes including Monthly Season Ticket (MST) (effective from 28.06.2014) have been revised by 14.2 percent which is inclusive of FAC linked revision of 4.2 percent.

There has been no increase upto minimum distance in all classes of passenger fare and upto 80 kilometer in second class ordinary (suburban).

ii. Freight rates were revised by 6.5 percent which is inclusive of FAC linked revision of 1.5 percent.

The increase in fares and freight rates was necessitated to meet rising costs of inputs and, the need for resources to meet the Railway's modernization, development and safety works.

(c) The expected earnings from the revision of fare and freight rates for the remaining period of current the Financial Year 2014-15 has been estimated at Rs. 7974 crore.

(d) Indian Railways take various measures to improve the quality of its services. This is a continuous process. In the area of passenger amenities, there has been significant improvement in the level of passenger amenities provided at stations over the years. Comprehensive norms for provisions of passenger amenities at various stations already exist. Further, ticketing facilities/services have been expended, upgraded, diversified and made more user-friendly. This is a dynamic process.

Steps taken for timely execution of pending projects:

Railways have huge throw forward of ongoing projects and limited availability of funds. To expedite the projects, State Governments have been requested to come forward to participate in Railways projects. As a result of these efforts, 9 State Governments have come forward for cost sharing and/or providing land free of cost in 39 projects. Field organizations have been empowered for faster decision. Frequent co-ordination meetings have been held with State Government and Ministry of Environment & Forests for faster clearances.