

(c) The reasons for outstanding are as under:—

- (i) Non-submission of audit certificate by the State Govt.
- (ii) Unilateral creation of posts of GRP personnel by the State Govt. Without obtaining prior consent of the Railway Administration.

(d) Recently Ministry of Railways has received following two references:

- (i) A Note circulated by Govt. of Maharashtra on Dated 17.11.97 in connection with outstanding GRP dues recoverable from Railways.
- (ii) A report was received on 22.5.98 containing interalia details relating to recovery of outstanding dues from the railways on account of expenditure incurred on the Govt. Railway Police by the State Government of Maharashtra.

(e) The claims of Rs. 10.65 crores will be settled as soon as the Audit Certificates are received.

#### **Expenditure on Railway Safety**

2309. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steady cut in the expenditure on railway safety during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether even the reduced allocation on safety measures have not been fully utilised; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The expenditure on Safety is booked mainly under 'Signalling & Telecommunication' planhead. The Gross Budget allotment and Actual expenditure incurred in this planhead during the last two years is as under:

Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure
1996-97	256.89 + 50.00 (BOLT)	251.93 + 50.00 (BOLT)	229.93
1997-98	201.40 +40.00 (BOLT)	221.75	232.27 (Prov.)

(c) and (d) The shortfall has occurred due to delay in tower erection (during 1996-97) and non-fructification of BOLT scheme. Funds for implementing Signalling Safety measures have been fully utilised.

#### **Modernisation of Old Coaches**

2310. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSHMARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to improve and modernise the old railway coaches; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY

OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Modernisation and design improvement in coaches is a continuous process and Indian Railways are actively upgrading the old coaches by introducing modern features like UIC type vestibules, modern flooring for coach toilets and interior, non-wood furnishing material, FRP windows, high capacity draw and buffing gear, roof mounted AC equipment, bogie mounted air brake system, etc. While most of the improvements are made regularly during scheduled periodic overhauls, coaches of more than 12 years age are also given major inputs through one time rehabilitation.