

(Rs. in crore)

Category of Earning	Actual Earning to end of October, 2012
Passenger	17,691.43
Other Coaching	1,708.04
Goods	46,805.48
Sundry	1,675.00
TOTAL EARNING :	67,879.95

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The earning was 3.23% less than the budgeted provision during the said period as detailed below:

(Rs. in crore)

Category of Earning	Budget Proportion to end of October, 2012	Actual Earning to end of October, 2012	Variation	
			Amount	%age
Passenger	18,196.46	17,691.43	-505.03	-2.78%
Other Coaching	1,690.74	1,708.04	17.30	1.02%
Goods	48,580.09	46,805.48	-1,774.61	-3.65%
Sundry	1,680.45	1,675.00	-5.45	-0.32%
TOTAL EARNING :	70,147.74	67,879.95	-2,267.79	-3.23%

Funds requirement of railways

1688. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways need at least Rs.10 lakh crore to enhance its safety measures and another Rs.1.25 lakh crore to complete 129 key projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways have decided to buy high-speed trains, which can run up to 200 kilometre per hour, at the cost of Rs.550 crore per train; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) An assessment of requirement of funds for safety related activities on the Railways has been made by the High Level Safety Review Committee headed by Dr. Anil Kakodkar. After the recommendations of the Committee are examined and accepted, the actual requirement of funds for implementing them would be known. However, safety has always been accorded the highest priority by the Railways. The total expenditure on safety related activities has progressively increased from Rs.30,656 crore in 2009-10 to Rs.38,762 crore (B.G.) in 2012-13.

(c) and (d) No decision to buy high speed trains which can run upto speed of 200 kilometre per hour has been taken. Linke-Hoffmann-Busch (LHB) coaches with speed potential upgradable to 200 kilometre per hour are already available.

Increase in train fares

1689. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to increase train fares;

(b) if so, the need for such an increase;

(c) whether Government has exploited all the avenues available for reduction in railway expenses on the one hand and augmenting internal generation of resources on the other; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) 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 and do not constitute a systemic proposal for revision of fares.

(c) and (d) It is continuous endeavour of the Railways to control expenditure and increase resources. Steps being taken for maximizing the traffic earnings *inter-alia* include rationalization of fare and freight tariff; effective marketing strategies to capture more and more traffic; creation of additional capacity and optimum utilization of the existing rail infrastructure; improved throughput by steps to increase productivity and efficiency; improvement of passenger interface etc. Railways are making efforts to contain the expenditure through diverse means including strict economy and austerity measures; improved man-power planning; better asset utilization and inventory management, optimizing fuel consumption etc.