

Revenue generation in railways

*10. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to earn revenue from non-fare sources in order not to burden the passengers by raising the passenger fare;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways are planning to earn revenue of about ₹ 2000 crore by way of offering branding packages of full trains; and

(c) whether only the products of the advertiser would be sold in the whole train or platforms, leaving no other choice to the public/passengers visiting the platform or travelling by those trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) In order to earn revenue through sources other than fare, Indian Railways has set up a Non-Fare Revenue Directorate to explore avenues for increasing earnings. The Revised Estimates for 2017-18 through advertising have been kept as ₹ 850 crore. This will entail revenues from Out of Home advertising, Mobile assets advertising, Rail Display network, App-based cabs, Monetization of soft assets, Automated Teller Machines and various innovative and unsolicited proposals.

(c) All permitted/listed products of any manufacturer/service provider can be sold on the train or platforms after following due process and procedures.

Subsidy for procuring foodgrains

*11. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has decided not to purchase foodgrains from farmers at MSP;

(b) whether Government is aware of inability of many States for procurement for want of necessary infrastructure;

(c) how the Ministry arrived at giving 30 per cent subsidy to States for procuring foodgrains;

(d) whether it is also a fact that States are demanding for 50 per cent subsidy;

(e) if so, Government's response thereto; and

(f) the result of the meeting held in January, 2018 with States on this issue?