

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2052**  
**ANSWERED ON 17.03.2023**

**SUBURBAN RAILWAY SERVICES**

2052. SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for low budgetary allocation to Mumbai, Kolkata-Howrah-Sealdah railway terminals when 88 and 82 per cent respectively of their passengers are in the suburban category;
- (b) whether it is a fact that they are not profitable and expenditure is more than ten times the earnings;
- (c) the total budget and expenditure on these two major suburban railway services and of Chennai, per year; and
- (d) percentage of total railway budget that goes to these three suburban railways that carry over 60 per cent of total railway passengers?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2052 BY SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 17.03.2023 REGARDING SUBURBAN RAILWAY SERVICES.**

(a) & (b) The suburban services of Mumbai are served by Central and Western Railway and Kolkata-Howrah-Sealdah suburban services are served by Eastern Railway, South Eastern Railway and Metro Railway. Railway budget for both revenue and capital expenditure is allotted to these zones based on their requirement and resource availability. The budget allotment is for maintenance and creation of entire rail infrastructure which is being used to operate all services including suburban. These suburban services are not profitable and in 2021-22, their expenses were ranging from 5 to 9 times of their revenues.

(c) & (d) Budget allotment to the zonal Railways concerned in RE 2021-22 is given below:

(₹ in crore)

| Zones with Suburban services                        |                       | Total Zonal Revenue Budget allotted | Total Zonal Capital Budget allotted |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Zones serving Mumbai Suburban                       | Central Railway       | 12774.60                            | 14051.14                            |
|   | Western Railway       | 11356.80                            | 10782.69                            |
| Zones serving Kolkata-Howrah-Sealdah Suburban       | Eastern Railway       | 10381.40                            | 10548.56                            |
|   | South Eastern Railway | 9015.20                             | 8584.20                             |
|   | Metro Railway         | 467.70                              | *1489.68                            |
| Zone serving Chennai Suburban including MTP Chennai | Southern Railway      | 9695.90                             | 10277.94                            |
| Total   |                       | 53691.60                            | 56634.21                            |
| % of IR's total Budget                              |                       | 35.8%                               | 29.8%                               |

\*In addition, ₹ 900 cr. is provided to KMRCL for construction of East-West corridor of Metro Railway Kolkata.

Revenue expenditure on Mumbai suburban, Kolkata-Howrah-Sealdah suburban and Chennai suburban in 2021-22 is given below:

| Suburban services | Revenue Expenditure (₹ in crore) |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mumbai            | 4423                             |
| Kolkata           | 4360                             |
| Chennai           | 975                              |

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