

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:110
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2000
RECOMMENDATIONS OF KHANNA COMMITTEE
VAIKO

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the report on railway safety has been presented by Justice Khanna Committee;
- (b) if so, whether the Commission has recommended the upgradation of signals, telecommunications and track maintenance;
- (c) if so, the amount required to meet the safety norms;
- (d) the manner in which the funds are proposed to be generated; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to implement the safety norms as recommended by the Khanna Committee ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) STARRED QUESTION NO.110 BY SHRI VAIKO TO E ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02-03-2000 REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS OF KHANNA COMMITTEE

a) Yes, Sir. The Railway Safety Review Committee set up under the chairmanship of Justice H.R.Khanna, a retired Judge of Supreme Court, has submitted Part-I of their report. Part-II of their report is yet to be received. The Part-I of the report (both English & Hindi versions) will be laid in Lok Sabha during the current session.

b) to (d) In Part-I of the report, the Committee has made 150 recommendations on different aspects of railway working. The committee has recommended provision of technical aids costing Rs. 2727 crores and renewal of assets costing Rs. 15,000 crores, besides other recommendations for which no financial repercussions have been given. The provision of technical aids and renewal of assets includes signalling, telecommunication and track maintenance.

It has also been suggested by the Committee that Central Government should provide a one time grant of Rs. 15,000 crores to the Railways so that arrears in renewals of vital safety equipment are wiped out within a fixed time frame. The provision of safety equipment/systems will depend upon the availability of funds either through grant from the Central Government or by means of internal generation of resources by Railway.

e) Although, Indian Railways have not received any specific grants on the basis of the recommendations of the Railway Safety Review Committee, efforts have been made to suitably enhance the outlay of safety related items in the next years budget within the constraints of available resources.

The budget proposals for 2000 – 2001 presented before Lok Sabha on 25th February carry a proposed outlay of Rs. 2,000 crore on track renewals, which is about 27% higher than the revised outlay during the current year. Similarly, signals and telecommunications, another safety item carries a proposed outlay, which is about 26% higher than the revised outlay in the current year. Action on implementing the recommendations of the Railway Safety Review Committee will continue to be taken depending on availability of resources with due priority.