

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2475
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2003
ISSUE OF BONDS
V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways propose to issue bonds to generate money for taking up renewals and safety norms at the earliest in order to avoid recurring accidents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government for generating money for safety work in Railways?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Renewals and safety related works are mainly financed out of internal generation and Special Railway Safety Fund and not market borrowings.
- (d) Measures being taken are towards improving earnings and controlling expenditure so as to improve the internal generation, which funds Depreciation Reserve Fund and Development Fund, the two funds from which works relating to safety are mainly financed. Also Government has approved the setting up of the Special Railway Safety Fund of Rs. 17,000 crore in October, 2001, funded by grant of Rs. 12,000 crore from General Exchequer and balance to be raised as safety surcharge on passenger fares.