

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 132**  
**ANSWERED ON 02.02.2024**

**OPERATING RATIO OF INDIAN RAILWAYS**

132. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the operating ratio of Indian Railways is getting worsened;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the funds sanctioned, released, and utilised under Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) since its inception, year-wise; and
- (d) the details of the funds sanctioned, released, and utilised under the Depreciation Reserve Fund in the last five years, year-wise?

**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. 132 BY SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 02.02.2024 REGARDING OPERATING RATIO OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.**

(a) to (d) The operating ratio in 2018-19 was 97.3%, which was adversely impacted during the Covid pandemic. Post pandemic, in 2022-23, operating ratio improved to 98.10%.

Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) was created in 2017-18 for a period of 5 years to ring fence funds for execution of works for renewal/ replacement with safety related implication with contribution of ₹ 1 lakh crore. Gross expenditure incurred on works sanctioned under RRSK since 2017-18 is given below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2017-18	₹ 17260 crore
2018-19	₹ 19596 crore
2019-20	₹ 16800 crore
2020-21	₹ 27713 crore
2021-22	₹ 27374 crore
2017-18 to 2021-22	₹ 108743 crore

The Government extended the currency of RRSK for a further period of 5 years w.e.f. 2022-23 with a total provision of ₹ 45,000 crores from Gross Budgetary Support.

With the merger of Railway Budget, the Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) has increased to ₹ 2,40,200 cr. in 2023-24 from ₹ 29,055 cr. in 2013-14. The investment in Railways is now primarily made through GBS. Investment through internal fund like Depreciation Reserve Fund etc. is minuscule and need based.

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