

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4539  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2016**

**DISCONTINUATION OF RAIL BUDGET**

**4539. SHRI M.B. RAJESH:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government had consultations with all stakeholders including unions before taking decision to do away with rail budget;**
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to dissolve Railway Board too in the new context;**
- (c) if not, the new role Government is envisaging to Rail Ministry and Railway Board;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to dissolve the Railway Ministry and merge it with the Ministry of Transport and National Highways; and**
- (e) if so, the other major reforms proposed in continuation with the decision to end separate rail budget?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

- (a) : The merger of Railway Budget with General Budget is based on the recommendations of the Committee headed by Shri Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI Aayog and a separate paper on 'Dispensing with the Railway Budget' by Shri Bibek Debroy along with Shri Kishore Desai. A Committee with representatives from Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Railways examined the issues involved and worked out the procedural details based on which the Government has decided to merge Rail Budget with the Union Budget from budget year 2017-18.**

**All stakeholders including Railway Convention Committee, Standing Committee, Unions etc. have been informed of the decision.**

**(b) : No, Madam.**

**(c) : The Railway Ministry and Railway Board are functioning as usual.**

**(d) : No, Madam.**

**(e) : Does not arise.**

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