

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 275
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2018**

OPERATING RATIO OF RAILWAYS

***275. DR. P. VENUGOPAL:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways is likely to end this financial year with an operating ratio of 95 per cent and is set to achieve 93 percent in the next fiscal and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Railways is considering to reduce its working expenses in 2018-19 to achieve better financial health by the end of next fiscal and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is also true that this year's operating ratio at 95 per cent is a marginal improvement over the last year's 96 per cent as per revised estimates of budget 2018-19; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF
STARRED QUESTION NO. 275 BY DR. P. VENUGOPAL TO BE
ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 14.03.2018 REGARDING OPERATING
RATIO OF RAILWAYS**

(a) Railways have targeted to achieve an Operating Ratio of 96% in Revised Estimates 2017-18 and 92.8% in Budget Estimates 2018-19.

(b) Yes, Madam. It has been the constant endeavour on part of the Railways to take all measures to keep the working expenses, a major part of which is represented by the Ordinary Working Expenses (OWE) and appropriation for pension payments, under control. The implementation of 7th Central Pay Commission recommendations is assessed to have impacted the Railways by over ₹20,000 cr. The OWE and pension appropriations have increased by 13.3% in Revised Estimates 2017-18 whereas in Budget Estimates 2018-19, these at ₹1,85,500 cr have been provided with a bare minimum growth of 6.4%. As may be seen from the above, efforts are being made for improved efficiency.

(c)&(d) Yes, Madam. The Operating Ratio target of 96% kept in Revised Estimates 2017-18 is a marginal improvement over 96.5% achieved in 2016-17.
