

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4071
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2019**

OVERBURDENED RAILWAY NETWORK

4071. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the railway network is overburdened and is inadequate to meet the new challenges of a fast developing economy;**
- (b) if so, the main challenges being faced by the Railways at present;**
- (c) whether some regions are beyond the reach of Railways due to unfavourable geographical condition and these areas need to be opened to Railways for removing regional inequalities in economic growth, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether due to lack of modern management, Railways failed to attract adequate incentives and suitable talent;**
- (e) if so, whether it is a fact that in addition to it, it could not make economic analysis for prospective planning tariff; and**
- (f) if so, the response of the Government thereto and the steps taken to combat the situation?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b) Railway have presently 483 over saturated sections out of 1245 sections. Over saturation of line capacity has resulted in stiff competition from other transport modes in maintaining the freight and passenger modal share. Hence, speedy execution of capacity enhancement works and availability of commensurate financial resources are one of a few main challenges before Indian Railways, which cater to length & breadth of this fast developing country.

(c) Yes, Sir. Many remote hilly regions have remained devoid of railway connectivity. A number of network expansion projects, even though unremunerative, have been taken up by Railways to provide connectivity to such areas. There are 31 New Line, Gauge Conversion, Doubling etc. ongoing projects for hilly areas in India which are under different stages of planning/approval/execution.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) & (f) Do not arise.
