GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5612 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2022

REALLOCATION OF FUNDS

5612. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formed a Committee to relook budget fund reallocation in Railways to prevent misuse by overlap of allocations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the detailed mandate and objectives of setting up of this Committee;
- (c) the details of the misuse of funds noticed in Railways due to overlap of allocations during the last three years, year-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has taken measures to ensure that utilisation of funds is in line with the requirements of the Railways in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) A committee has been formed to examine the feasibility of merging various Funds operated by Railways and other connected issues.

- (b) The Terms of Reference for the Committee include:
 - i. to examine the relevance/need for continuance of Funds in their present form, including the need for separate ring-fenced special purpose funds like Development Fund, Depreciation Reserve Fund, Railway Safety Fund and Pension Funds.
- ii. to examine the feasibility of merging existing Railway Funds based on relevance and need and suggest rules of allocation for merged Funds.
- iii. to suggest mechanisms for internal controls for ensuring judicious use of Funds in case of merged Funds.
- iv. to bring out changes in codal provisions and existing instructions necessary for implementation of the recommendations.
- (c) No misuse of funds has taken place on Indian Railways during last three years.
- (d) and (e) Fund provision in Budget is made for expenditure as per requirement projected by Railways, progress of works and overall availability of resources.
