

PRESS RELEASE

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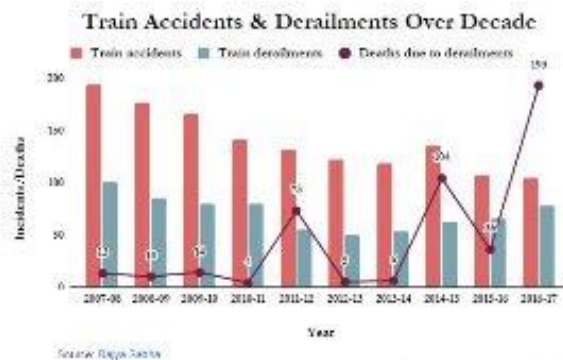
Railway Safety is in a mess. Accidents, Derailments
and Complete apathy to passenger safety is the ‘new
normal’

Railway Ministry has failed to provide managerial
leadership & stutters and stumbles viz-a-viz
accountability.

Railway Minister, Shri Suresh Prabhu has failed to
provide, leadership, roadmap or vision to Railways.

1. 28 Major Train Accidents since Modi Government took office

259 people have died and 973 people injured in 28 Major Rail Accidents. India's death toll from train derailments in 2016-17 is now the highest it has been in a decade.



As much as 40% of 1219 line sections of Indian Railways are congested beyond 100% capacity, thus resulting in lack of safety. On 247 High density line sections, Congestion rate is even higher.

2. 1.42 lakh (posts for safety staff remain unfilled across India, which, experts say, is a major concern and clear case of official apathy. Total number of vacancies in the Safety Categories including Group C & Group D (Front Line Categories) is 1,25,754. What has the Budget announced to fill in these mounting vacancies?

3. Modi Government has increased Rail Fares by more than 70%. Even for a reservation of lower berth, Railways charges Rs 50 extra. Platform ticket prices have been doubled. Freight Prices have increased by 20% each year.
4. Railways' operating ratio touches a record 109% in April –December. In the nine months to December, the national transporter ran up a record-high operating ratio of 109%, meaning it spent Rs109 to generate Rs100, reflecting the competition it is facing from airlines and road transport to carry people and freight. Still At 96.9 per cent, Railways posts worst operating ratio in 16 years last fiscal. The last time Railways clocked operating ratio this bad was in years 2000-2002.
5. Railways have missed earnings targets for the third straight year and debts have shot up. Indian Railways earned about 1,75,805 crore in 2016-17 from freight earnings, passenger revenue, catering contracts, luggage transporting fees and other miscellaneous sources. Indian Railways registered a 2.15% dip in December revenue earning to Rs9,240 crore, compared with Rs9,442.32 crore in December 2015.
6. The Railways total loss of 2015-16 stood as Rs 30,000 Crore
7. If Prime Minister Modi can spend Rs 1 lakh crore on a bullet train, which he promised between Ahmadabad and Mumbai, why can't he allocate 40 thousand crore for railway safety. We have seen platform tickets go up. We have seen, passengers fare go up, but railway safety remains under a serious cloud.