

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3496**  
**ANSWERED ON 31.03.2023**

**NATIONAL RAIL PLAN**

3496. # SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched the National Rail Plan to strengthen the rail infrastructure in the country;
- (b) the details of the targets set by Government under this scheme;
- (c) the time frame fixed by Government to achieve the set targets; and
- (d) whether there is a plan to start any rail project for the state of Gujarat under National Rail Plan, if so, the details thereof ?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3496 BY SHRI NARHARI AMIN ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 31.03.2023 REGARDING NATIONAL RAIL PLAN**

(a) to (c): Indian Railways have prepared the National Rail Plan (NRP) to create a 'future ready' Railway system for India. It aims to formulate strategies based on both operational capacities and commercial policy initiatives to increase share of the Railways in freight transportation. The objective of the Plan is to create capacity ahead of demand, which in turn would also cater to the future growth in demand upto 2050.

The main features of the National Rail Plan are:-

- Strategies based on both operational capacities and commercial policy initiatives to increase modal share of the Railways in freight to 40-45% and sustain it.
- Estimation of Rail freight share, demand forecast, Rail Network demand, capacity utilisation and identification of bottleneck sections.
- Identification of future Dedicated Freight Corridors, High Speed Rail Corridors, High Density Networks and Highly utilised Networks.
- Reduction in transit time of freight substantially by increasing average speed of freight trains.
- As part of the National Rail Plan, certain critical and important projects such as 100% electrification, multi-tracking of congested routes, upgradation of speed to 160 kmph on Delhi-Howrah and Delhi-Mumbai routes, upgradation of speed to 130 kmph on all other Golden Quadrilateral-Golden Diagonal (GQ/GD) routes and elimination of all Level Crossings on all GQ/GD route etc. have been taken up on priority.
- Assessment of rolling stock requirements for passenger traffic as well as wagon requirements for freight.
- Assessment of Locomotive requirements to meet twin objectives of 100% electrification (Green Energy) and increasing freight modal share.
- Assessment of the total investment in capital that would be required along with a periodical break up.

(d) Railway projects are not sanctioned Statewise, they are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and projects may span across State boundaries. The State of Gujarat is served by Western and North Western Railway. Presently, 34 Projects (04 New Line, 19 Gauge Conversion and 11 Doubling) costing Rs. 30,741 crore for 3,727km length falling fully/partly in Gujarat are in different stages of planning/sanctioning/execution.

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