

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 908**  
**ANSWERED ON 06.02.2026**

**EXPANSION OF FREIGHT LOGISTICS AND REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY**

908 SHRI NARHARI AMIN:  
SMT. SEEMA DWIVEDI:  
SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:  
SHRI ADITYA PRASAD:  
DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:  
SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives taken by Government to strengthen freight transport logistics through Indian Railways and enhance regional connectivity to reinforce first and last mile connectivity;
- (b) the progress made so far in upgrading wagon production and increasing freight carrying capacity; and
- (c) the current status of the initiatives implemented to facilitate freight transport to remote and strategic areas?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): For strengthening freight logistics and regional connectivity, Indian Railways has implemented a multi-pronged strategy to enhance freight efficiency, ensure seamless regional connectivity, and provide robust first-and-last-mile solutions. The key initiatives are categorized below –

- (i) Terminal Development: To improve the efficiency of rail freight handling at the terminals, Indian Railway has adopted two-pronged approach: encouraging development of modern rail freight terminals under Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal (GCT) policy and augmenting/upgrading the infrastructure at railway owned goods sheds. So far, 124 GCTs have already been commissioned with an estimated traffic capacity of 198 million tonnes per annum (MTPA). In addition, for improvement of customer amenities at goods and parcel terminals all across the country, an amount of Rs. 14,500 crore has been allocated for the financial year 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26.
- (ii) Wagon Investment Schemes: Indian Railway has already implemented various schemes for private sector to invest in wagons including the commodity focused specialized wagons such as wagons for cement, oil, steel, fly-ash etc. So far, around 243 rakes of special purpose wagons and 383 rakes of general-purpose wagons are operational, which are expected to improve modal

share in commodities like bulk cement, fly-ash, steel products, iron ores and coal etc. Besides, there is a separate scheme for transportation of automobiles under which around 51 rakes owned by industry are operational.

- (iii) Joint Parcel Product-Rapid Cargo Service (JPP-RCS) scheme: This scheme offers tailor-made logistics to meet specific needs of the customer and provide door-to-door parcel services. Under the scheme, provision has been made for online booking of parcel space in these services through Aggregators (in addition to India Post) on 'Virtual Aggregation Platform (VAP)'.
- (iv) CONCOR, a PSU under Ministry of Railways is also providing Door-to-Door parcel services by utilizing the JPP-RCS over Delhi-Kolkata and Mumbai-Kolkata sectors. CONCOR is also providing Door-to-Door logistics under a pilot project at Sonik Goods shed.

With regard to wagon production, following initiatives have been taken by Ministry of Railways for freight capacity enhancement–

- (i) Introduction of new design BOSM wagon for transportation of bulk commodities as well as point load commodities like steel coils and ACT1 wagon for transportation of automobiles particularly SUVs.
- (ii) Regular production of stainless steel body BOBSNS wagons used for iron ore transport has commenced, which have 11% higher throughput as compared to existing BOBSN rake.
- (iii) Flat Multipurpose Wagon for transportation of automobiles, trucks, military equipment, steel coils etc. has been introduced.
- (iv) Enhanced loading in upper deck of double stack container has been permitted enhancing loading in upper deck from approx. 26t to 30.5t.
- (v) Steps for upgrading speed potential of 54 wagon variants, consisting of more than 50% of total wagon population, to 100 kmph has been undertaken.

Further, with regard to railway initiatives to facilitate freight transport to remote and strategic areas, it is stated that Railway projects are surveyed/sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/District wise/region wise as the Railway projects may span across State/district boundaries/regions.

As on 01.04.2025, across Indian Railways, 431 Railway infrastructure projects (154 New line, 33 Gauge Conversion and 244 Doubling) of total length 35,966 Km, costing approx. Rs. 6.75 lakh crore are sanctioned. The summary is as under:-

Category	No of Projects	Total Length NL/GC/DL (km)	Length Commissioned till Mar'25 (Km)	Total Exp upto Mar'25 ( ` in Cr)
New lines	154	16,142	3,036	1,45,318
Gauge Conversion	33	4,180	2,997	22,753
Doubling / Multitracking	244	15,644	6,736	1,22,858
Total	431	35,966	12,769	2,90,929

Zone-wise/year-wise details of all Railway projects are made available in public domain on Indian Railway's website.

The details of commissioning/laying of new track across Indian Railways is given below:-

Period	New track Commissioned	Average commissioning of new tracks
2009-14	7,599 Km	4.2 Km/day
2014-25	34,428 Km	8.57 Km/day (more than 2 times)

\*\*\*\*\*