GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1792 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2017

BUSINESS IN BULK COMMODITIES

1792. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE: SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE: SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways traditionally have been doing business in bulk commodities, that too in ten major commodities including ore and cement among others and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Public Private Partnership(PPP) is the best mode to accommodate smaller quantities of cargo and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways is working on a structured plan which will encourage multi-modal transportation and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Railways have prepared the vision document to make Indian Railways the best in the world by 2030; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1792 BY SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO, DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE, SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE AND SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 26.07.2017 REGARDING BUSINESS IN BULK COMMODITIES

(a)Yes, Madam. The data as maintained by Indian Railways is as under:

Commodity wise loading for 2016-17 over Indian Railways (in Million Tonnes)		
Coal	533.35	48.10
Iron Ore	137.61	12.41
Cement	104.15	9.39
Other Goods	80.04	7.22
Fertilizers	48.92	4.41
Pig Iron & Steel	48.41	4.37
Container	47.49	4.28
Foodgrains	44.93	4.05
POL	42.93	3.87
Raw Material for Steel Plant	20.96	1.89
Total	1108.79	

(b) Yes, Madam. Container traffic is already in existence to accommodate smaller quantities of cargo. In addition, initiative to run double stack dwarf container trains on PAN India basis has also been taken by Indian Railways. With a view to capturing small parcel traffic, a scheme for leasing of parcel space of Brake-vans / Parcel-vans of passengers carrying trains and Parcel Cargo express train is already in existence. Under the scheme, entire parcel capacity of unit (i.e. Brake-van or Parcel-van or entire Parcel Cargo train) is leased out to the private parties in inviting bids through open tenders. The leaseholder aggregates the small cargo from various customers and offers the same in the leased parcel capacity for transportation by the Railway.

- (c) Yes, Madam. With a view to encouraging multi-modal transportation, 82 terminals are operated by Container train operators. CONCOR, a PSU of Ministry of Railways, has 68 terminals spread over the country. Five logistics parks have been developed in 2016-17.
- (d) & (e) Yes, Madam. A draft document has been sent to Niti Aayog which has been mandated to prepare a vision document for 2030 for several ministries including Railways.

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