Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quarterly distribution of total expenditure incurred for the functioning of Kisan Rail, the quantity of food products transported and the descending order of the list of popularity of routes till date, State-wise;

(b) the steps being taken to expand the current network of Kisan Rail routes to cover States of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to reduce handling of the farmers’ crates in the process of transportation to reduce spillage and wastage?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 90 BY DR. HEENA GAVIT, PROF. RITA BHUUGUNA JOSHI, DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL, DR. KRISHNA PAL SINGH YADAV, SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL AND DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.12.2022 REGARDING NETWORK OF KISAN RAIL ROUTES

(a) and (b): The data regarding expenditure incurred on operating any type of train services, including Kisan Rail trains, is not maintained. However, since the launch of Kisan Rail service on 7th August 2020 and upto 30th November 2022, around 2,359 services have been operated, transporting approximately 7.9 lakh tonnes of consignments on 167 routes. Major loading stations for Kisan Rail services are Devlali, Sangola, Savda, Raver, Nagarsol, Yeola, Dahanu Road, Lingampet Jagityal, Farukkabad, Indore, Kherwadi, Lasalgaon, Niphad, Nuzvid, Vizianagram, etc, and major unloading locations are Agartala, Adarshnagar (Delhi), Changsari, Chitpur, Fatuha, Malda Town, Gour Malda, New Jalpaiguri, New Guwahati, Muzaffarpur, Jorhat and Shalimar, etc.

Potential circuits for movement of Kisan Rail services are identified in consultation with Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Agriculture/Animal Husbandry/ Fisheries Departments of State Governments as well as local bodies and agencies, Mandis etc., and based on demand, rakes are provided on priority for running of Kisan Rail services. Kisan rail services have been operational in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
(c): Stoppages of Kisan rail trains are provided at stations where unhindered and efficient loading/unloading operation can be performed, so as to avoid multiple handling and to minimize damage to the commodities. Also, the consignments are stacked properly and tied securely as per requirement to avoid lateral movement during transit and save the perishables from damages.

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