

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2370
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2023**

MODAL SHARE IN FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION

2370. SHRI Y.S. AVINASH REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to attract more cargo to the Railways and increase its modal share in freight transportation thereby reducing logistics cost of the industry, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the move is also expected to speed up plans for divestment of 30.8% in Container Corporation of India Ltd.;**
- (c) if so, whether the policy also provides for use of railway land to set up solar plants at a nominal cost and encourages development of social infrastructure; and**
- (d) if so, the details and the present status 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 .

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2370 BY SHRI Y.S. AVINASH REDDY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.03.2023 REGARDING MODAL SHARE IN FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION

(a) Yes, Sir. The National Rail Plan envisages that the share of freight traffic by rail should go up from current share of 28% to 44% by 2051. The construction of Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) on the important high density route is an important policy measure by Indian Railways to arrest the trend of falling market share of railways in the country and also will shift the advantage in favour of rail transport. DFC operation will bring-in efficiency in freight operation and enable rail tariff being more competitive because of its following operational/design features:

- Higher throughput per wagon and per train: Run Heavy Haul trains.**
- Lower Energy Consumption: Reduce Operation and Maintenance Costs**
- Reduction in Transit time: Reduce logistic cost of transportation and better utilization of Rolling stock**

Moreover Indian Railway has taken number of multi-pronged strategy to increase its modal share in freight segment which includes tariff rationalization and Tariff/freight incentive schemes which includes; diversification of freight basket, Liberalised Automatic Freight Rebate

Scheme in Traditional Empty Flow Directions, Rationalization of Station to station rates policy, Rationalization of Merry-Go- Round, Concession in short Lead Traffic, Discount in freight to fly ash traffic booked in Open/flat Stock & covered wagons, Round trip charging for ultra short lead (upto 50Kms) container traffic, Round Trip Traffic (RTT) Policy, Automobile Freight Train Operator Scheme (AFTO), Introduction of Cube Container for two wheeler traffic. A New 'Gati Shakti Multi- Modal Cargo Terminal (GCT)' policy has also been launched to facilitate development of cargo terminals on non Railway land, as well as on Railway land (partially or fully) etc.

In addition, various other schemes have also been introduced to attract private investment in General Purpose Wagons, Special Purpose / High Capacity wagons and Automobile carrier wagons. Presently around 232 rakes have been inducted under various investment schemes.

(b) Strategic disinvestment of Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR) is being carried out by Department of investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM). DIPAM has informed that the Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on

20.11.2019 has given in principle approval for Strategic disinvestment of Government of India's (GOI) holding of 30% out of its present holding of 54.8% in CONCOR along with transfer of management control to strategic buyer.

(c) & (d) The Master Circular on "Policy for Management of Railway Land" issued on 04.10.2022 permits setting up of Renewable power plants for exclusive use of Railways for a lease period of upto 35 years @ ₹ 1/- per square meter (sqm) per annum. Further, it permits Hospitals selected through a transparent policy and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for a lease period of upto 60 years @ ₹ 1/- per square meter (sqm) per annum. So far, Indian Railway has set up about 6.7 Mega watt (MW) of Solar Power Plant on it vacant land. Details are as follows:

- 3MW solar plant at Modern Coach Factory (MCF), Raebareli (Uttar Pradesh) has been commissioned.**
- 2 MW solar plant at Diwana (Haryana) has been Commissioned.**
- 1.7 MW solar plant at Bina (Madhya Pradesh) has been commissioned.**

Further, Railway vacant land has also been used for setting up of plant of 50 MW capacity at Bhilai.