

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1519
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2021**

INCREASE IN FREIGHT LOADING

†1519. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISRA TENI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering/likely to consider to increase the percentage of freight moved by goods train from 36 to a higher figure;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

(a) & (b): Railways have taken a large number of tariff and non-tariff measures to attract more freight business to rail transport and for increasing the modal share of rail in the overall transport. These include:

- 1. Setting up of Business Development Units to inter alia actively pursue and attract freight business for rail**
- 2. Withdrawal of 15% busy season surcharge on Railway freight for all commodities except Iron ore and Coal**

- 3. Concession on long lead traffic of 15 to 20% on Coal, Iron-ore and iron & steel.**
- 4. Concession on short lead traffic of 10 to 50% for commodities (except Coal and iron-ore)**
- 5. 5% discount on loaded Containers & 25% on empty Containers and waiver of stabling charges on Container rakes during COVID till 31st Oct, 2020.**
- 6. Specific discounts on commodities such as fly ash.**
- 7. Rationalisation of classification of industrial salt.**
- 8. Making existing schemes like traditional empty flow directions, wagon investment schemes, PFT, Siding policy simplified and made more customer friendly.**
- 9. Debit/Credit scheme for Demurrage introduced for sidings.**
- 10. Launching of Freight Business Development Portal.**

As a result of these efforts, in the current financial year, despite pandemic, Railways have achieved record freight loading in the last 5 months i.e. September, 2020 to January, 2021.

(c): Does not arise