

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3296  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2022**

**TRIALS OF FREIGHT TRAINS**

**3296. SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Ministry has conducted any trials of freight trains from India to other countries and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Ministry is planning to increase such freight trains from different States including Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Ministry has set any targets for increasing the share of trade through rail freight with other countries over the years; and**
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (d) : Freight trains are already running from India to Bangladesh and Nepal. Running of such trains depends upon demand from trade and capacity in these countries to receive and handle the freight trains. Although, there is no set target for increasing share of trade through rail, various steps have been taken for increasing freight**

**trains to Bangladesh and Nepal like increase in interchange points for running freight trains; diversification of cargo and use of different types of wagons; assistance in development of rail infrastructure in these countries; amendments to Rail Service Agreements for running freight trains; etc. The details of such trains are as under:-**

| <b>Year</b>                          | <b>Number of freight trains for</b> |              |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
|                                      | <b>Bangladesh</b>                   | <b>Nepal</b> |
| <b>2019-20</b>                       | <b>660</b>                          | <b>1128</b>  |
| <b>2020-21</b>                       | <b>1335</b>                         | <b>1015</b>  |
| <b>2021-22 (till February, 2022)</b> | <b>1395</b>                         | <b>980</b>   |

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