

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.566  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2025**

**FREIGHT INCENTIVE SCHEME**

**566. SHRI NARESH GANPAT MHASKE:  
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:  
SMT. BHARTI PARDHI:  
SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL:  
SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR:  
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched freight incentive schemes to attract bulk and small cargo to Railways and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the categories of concessions and services offered to industries and logistics players;**
- (c) whether initiatives like Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals are linked to these freight reforms and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the manner in which the Government ensures faster turnaround times and last-mile connectivity; and**
- (e) whether these schemes strengthen country's supply chain efficiency and logistics competitiveness particularly in Balaghat Lok Sabha Constituency, MMR Region and Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (e): Indian Railway has taken multi-pronged strategy to promote**

**the freight segment and strengthening of the supply chain through freight-rate rationalization and adoption of various incentive schemes.**

**i. Some of the initiatives taken are as under:**

- **Introduction of rationalized and simplified Gross Tonnes (GTKM) based rate for haulage of bulk cement in tank containers. The new rate structure, without complex slab structure (for weight and distance), enhances ease of doing business.**
- **Telescopic rate benefit extended to domestic Coal movement in Rail-Sea-Rail (RSR) mode,**
- **Reclassification of commodities-Soda Ash Dense/Light, Soda Bi-carbonate etc.**
- **Liberalized Automatic Freight Rebate Scheme in Traditional Empty Flow Directions,**
- **Station-to-Station Rates Policy,**
- **Rationalization of Merry-Go-Round,**
- **Concession in Short Lead Traffic,**
- **Discount in freight to Fly Ash/Bed Ash traffic booked in Open/flat Stock & covered wagons,**
- **De-notification of commodities for carriage at Haulage rate per TEU in container,**
- **Joint Parcel Product-Rapid Cargo Service (JPP-RCS) scheme**
- **Incentives for Containerized transportation of Tiles Traffic,**
- **Policy for Cargo Aggregation-Cargo Aggregator Transportation Product, etc.**

**ii. Indian Railway has implemented various schemes to attract private investment in General Purpose Wagons, Special Purpose / High Capacity wagons and Automobile carrier wagons for cement, oil,**

steel, fly-ash, automobile etc. So far, around 240 rakes of special purpose wagons, 374 rakes of general-purpose wagons and 48 rakes of automobile wagons have been inducted.

- **“Bulk Cement Terminal Policy”** has been launched recently as part of Railway reforms for Cement transportation to facilitate setting up Bulk Cement terminals on Railway land. This will enhance transportation of Bulk Cement by Rail through specialized wagons,
- Under the **‘Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal (GCT)’** policy launched to facilitate development of cargo terminals on non Railway land, as well as on Railway land (partially or fully), so far, 118 new GCTs have been commissioned since the implementation of the policy, with an estimated traffic capacity of 192 million tonnes per annum (MTPA).
- From the financial year 2023-24 onwards, an amount of ₹14500 crore has been allocated for improvement of freight and parcel terminals.
- A total of 9 new Gati Shakti Cargo terminals(GCTs) have been commissioned so far in Maharashtra state including in MMR region, with total investment of ₹548.69 crore. Further, 91 works have been sanctioned in Maharashtra state including in MMR region, of amount of ₹ 932.34 crore for development of goods and parcel terminals.

**iii. The Government is taking several steps to ensure faster turnaround times and last mile connectivity which includes capacity enhancement works such as:**

- **Doubling and multi tracking of important Railway routes,**

- **Engine-on-Load(EOL) scheme,**
- **Mechanization of Terminals with silo, preweighbin, Tipplers, Hoppers, Conveyor belts etc,**
- **Commissioning of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC),**
- **Construction of flyovers and by-passes to decongest busy terminals,**
- **Containerization of Cargo and providing direct Rail connectivity to industries under the PM Gati Shakti Cargo terminals policy for enhancing efficient Multimodal Transportation Development.**

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