

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 216
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.02.2016**

FREIGHT SHARE OF RAILWAYS

**216. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that freight Share of Railways is declining year by year;**
- (b) if so, whether the Railways have in the process of carrying out a detailed study of as many as 46 commodities to find out the potential sectors which can help increase its declining freight traffic growth and if so, the details of the scheme prepared by the Indian Railways therefor;**
- (c) whether the Railways have considering to include refrigerated goods, building material, horticulture, courier express and parcel, marble, glass among other and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether Railways have exploring ways in which it can help in door-to-door transportation of goods and if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Railways have taken steps/ proposes to take steps to collaborate with e-commerce companies in their delivery services in order to increase revenue from freight services of the railways and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) whether similar steps are being planned to increase freight revenue of the railways and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 216 BY SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO & SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.02.2016 REGARDING FREIGHT SHARE OF RAILWAYS

(a) Railways are primarily bulk carriers of freight. Indian Railways continues to be a major player in the transportation of the commodities requiring bulk transportation.

The rail co-efficient (% age of rail share in transportation of the total availability (production plus import)) of the major bulk commodities, since 2010-11, has been as under:

(figures in %)

	Coal	Iron Ore	Cement	Foodgrains	Fertilizers	POI Products
2010-11	69.87	56.67	46.78	17.77	81.60	18.52
2011-12	70.91	61.75	50.43	17.89	88.27	18.16
2012-13	70.70	79.76	41.81	19.06	88.29	17.39
2013-14 (R)	69.35	81.33	42.74	20.79	88.69	17.33
2014-15 (P)	65.75	79.98	40.36	21.95	87.65	17.01
2015-16 (Apr-Dec) (P)	68.83	75.95	38.00	NA	87.85	17.11

(P) Provisional (R) Revised NA: Not Available

(b) A study on the factors impacting rail transportation of bulk commodities was assigned to NCAER (National Council of Applied Economic Research) and the report of NCAER has been received recently on 18.02.2016.

(c) A number of initiatives have been taken with a view to attract non-bulk piecemeal traffic, which are enumerated below:-

- Transportation of Horticulture produce in containers- Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) has procured 98 Ventilated Isolated Containers specially designed for movement of fruits and vegetables. In addition to this, CONCOR has already running Reefer containers for highly perishable items.**

- **Transportation of milk through Rail Milk Tankers (RMT) - National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) had procured 95 RMTs which are plying at different locations.**
- **Running of parcel express trains (Non-leased) - At present, parcel express trains are running on 12 routes.**
- **Running of parcel express trains on lease basis – At present, 2 such trains are in operation.**
- **During the year 2014-15, 1282 parcel cargo trains were operated.**
- **Running of Fruit special trains – 152 such trains were run.**
- **Development of separate terminals for handling of Parcel Express trains - 132 Parcel Terminals have been notified.**

(d) Indian Railways provides door to door services for customers having own sidings inside their plants (power houses, etc). CONCOR and other Container Train Operators also provide door-to-door service through containerized movement. Further, setting up of a PSU which will be mandated, inter alia, to provide door to door logistic services for transportation of goods is under consideration.

(e) The piecemeal cargo offered by any person or private operator including e-commerce companies is accepted by the Railways for booking and carriage through Brakevans and Parcel Vans of passengers' carrying trains.

The parcel space is also leased out to private operators including e-commerce companies by inviting bids through open tenders after registering themselves as leaseholder.

(f) For improving the efficiency of freight operations and freight revenues, various steps have been taken up Indian Railways, which are summarized below:

- **Increasing the axle load for carrying additional traffic per wagon. Length of freight trains has also been increased to carry more traffic per train.**
- **Use of extensive computerization in freight operations to improve monitoring and utilization of assets.**
- **Deployment of higher capacity locomotives and higher capacity wagons.**
- **Improvement in maintenance practices of wagons and locomotives resulting in increased availability of rolling stock for traffic use.**
- **Improvement in track and signaling to carry higher volume of traffic.**

In order to increase the market share of Railways, in conventional and non conventional traffic, schemes for investment in high capacity and Special Purpose Wagons through Public Private Partnership (PPP) have been introduced -

- **Liberalized Wagon Investment Scheme – So far, 59 rakes by 15 firms have been approved for procurement out of which 30 rakes have been inducted and are running on Indian Railway's system.**
- **Wagon Leasing Scheme – Two companies have been registered as wagon leasing company, after which 12 rakes of BLC wagons were procured and approval for 4 new BLC and 2 BTAP rakes have been accorded.**
- **Special Freight Operator Scheme – 3 rakes of BRNA wagons have been procured and running in Indian Railway's system.**
- **Automobile Freight Train Operator Scheme (AFTO) – Two companies have been registered as AFTO. Approval has been given for procurement of 12 rakes of BCACBM wagon. Out of which, 7 rakes have been procured and is running on IR system.**
- **Private Freight Terminals (PFT) - To facilitate development of a network of freight terminal with private investments to provide efficient and cost effective logistics services with warehousing solutions, a scheme namely Private Freight Terminal was introduced. So far, 73 proposals have been received, out of which 27 terminals have been notified and are functional.**

- **In order to attract additional traffic to Railways and thereby increasing freight revenue, Indian Railways has taken several steps like Automatic Freight Rebate Scheme for traffic loaded in empty flow directions, Incentive Scheme for Freight Forwarders, improving throughput per train, running of long haul trains etc.**
- **Regular interactions are held with the stakeholders of the main bulk commodities carried by Indian Railways, so as to meet the requirement of the industry.**
