

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5043
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2019**

FREIGHT EARNINGS OF RAILWAYS

5043. SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the freight earnings of the Railways for 2016-17 decreased by 4.46% as compared to 2015-16 and compared to the previous years growth of 3.23%;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise ;**
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any assessment regarding reasons for freight earnings loss and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the details of the steps taken/ being taken by the Government to enhance freight earnings of Railways in the country, year-wise since 2014, zone and State-wise?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(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.5043 BY SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.07.2019 REGARDING FREIGHT EARNINGS OF RAILWAYS

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Zone-wise details of Freight Earnings for the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 are appended.

(c) & (d) Evaluation of various alternatives relating to rationalisation of freight rates is an ongoing process. To make the rail transportation attractive to its customers, various initiatives have been taken which include tariff rationalisation, classification of new commodities and expansion of freight basket through containerisation. Some of the major steps which have been taken in last four years to generate additional revenue are as under:-

- i. Long Term Tariff Contract with key freight customers.**
- ii. Introduction of new delivery model of Double Stack Dwarf Container.**
- iii. FAK rate benefit extended to notified commodities loaded upto 50 TEUs per rake which was earlier 30TEUs per rake.**
- iv. 25% discount granted for movement of empty container and empty flat wagon in container traffic.**
- v. Introduction of Advance Freight scheme.**
- vi. Rationalisation of Station to Station Rates.**
- vii. Increase in Permissible Carrying Capacity (PCC) of BFNSM 22.9 wagon.**
- viii. Introduction of Customer friendly rationalisation of weightment policy.**
- ix. Liberalised Automatic Freight Rebate Scheme in Empty Flow Directions.**
- x. Withdrawal of Port Congestion Charge.**
- xi. Proliferation of Roll-on-Roll off Service on Indian Railways.**

- xii. Withdrawal of levy of congestion charge for stone traffic transported from Eastern Railway to Bangladesh via Darsana/Benapole.**
- xiii. Withdrawal of Inflation in distance for charge @ 50% on goods traffic in Bibinagar-Nadikudi section of SCR.**
- xiv. Rationalisation of Coal Tariff.**
- xv. More flexibility in Mini rake loading by increasing the distance from 400Km to 600Km.**
- xvi. Withdrawal of Dual Freight Policy of Iron Ore traffic.**
- xvii. Reduction in minimum distance for charge from 125 km to 100 km.**
- xviii. Expansion of the freight basket – Additional 44 commodities have been de-notified from the notified list and brought under FAK rates.**
- xix. Dispensation from mandatory (100%) weighment in case of loading of “Standard Bags of uniform size” when transported in container.**
- xx. Discount for loading of bagged consignment in open and flat wagons.**
- xxi. Rationalisation of Merry-Go-Round (MGR) scheme.**
- xxii. Permitting all covered wagons for booking of traffic to two-point/multi-point combinations, mini rake.**

Recently, freight rate has been further rationalized with effect from 01.11.2018, having following features:

- i. Increase in freight rate of Coal, RMSP (Raw material for steel plants) , Iron & Steel, Iron ore , Other goods @ 8.75 %.**
- ii. Increase in haulage charge of Container trains @ 5 % w.e.f 01.12.2018.**
- iii. No increase in freight of Foodgrain, Fertilizers, POL, Sugar, Salt, Edible oils and Cement as these are essential commodities or already at high rate.**

**APPENDIX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5043 BY SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM
PATIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.07.2019
REGARDING FREIGHT EARNINGS OF RAILWAYS**

(b) Zone-wise Freight Earnings for the years 2014-15 to 2016-17 are as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Zonal Railway	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Central	6,825.94	7354.87	6695.42
Eastern	3,622.07	3649.15	4049.99
East Central	7,771.60	8558.99	8302.24
East Coast	11,379.40	12290.90	13263.88
Northern	7,313.74	7191.59	6697.96
North Central	8,782.42	9321.97	8490.48
North Eastern	1,322.40	1321.13	1409.23
North-east Frontier	1,871.88	1930.89	1918.66
North Western	4,914.57	4772.78	4465.17
Southern	3,045.72	2816.17	2615.32
South Central	10,778.47	10145.43	9366.99
South Eastern	9,611.12	10558.34	10899.96
South East Central	9,613.06	10932.29	10671.80
South Western	3,243.40	3000.64	2792.27
Western	8,146.59	7597.29	6100.69
West Central	7,548.96	7765.22	6598.48
Total	1,05,791.34	109207.65	104338.54
Percentage growth over previous year		3.23%	-4.46%
