

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2850

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001

LEASING OF CARGO TRAINS

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have drawn up a plan to offer lease full cargo trains with fixed schedules on inter-metro routes on long terms contracts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any specific route has been selected for starting such trains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any commercial activity actually taken place for such an offer by the Railways; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. For the transportation of parcel traffic, a point-to-point parcel special train with door to door service called `Millenium Parcel Express` has since been introduced. Under the scheme, whole train on round trip basis is leased out to the private cargo operators by inviting offers/bids through open tenders on long term basis i.e. three to five years. First such train has already been introduced on Tuglakabad - Tondiarpet - Tuglakabad sector through Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR), a Public Sector Undertaking of this Ministry w.e.f. 29.07.2001.

(c) & (d) : In the first phase, it is proposed to introduce the service between metro cities. However, there is no restriction for starting such trains on other sectors as well. The idea is to provide the service as per demand.

(e) : No, Sir.

(f) : Does not arise.