

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:390
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006
PRIVATE COMPANIES TO OPERATE CONTAINER TRAINS
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of operators including private companies who have applied for licences to run container trains;
- (b) the number of operators obtained licences to run container trains;
- (c) whether the Railways have allowed foreign partnership to these operators;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Railways have permitted FDI in infrastructure or operation; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) : Fourteen.

(b) : Fourteen.

(c) & (d): Any person individual or a joint venture or a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 shall be eligible to obtain the permission to operate container trains.

(e) & (f): Indian Railways allow investment including Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in infrastructure in line with Government of India's policy. However, no Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted on Passenger/Freight transportation by rail as these are reserved for Public Sector.