

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1168  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010  
PRIVATE PARTICIPATION IN CONTAINER OPERATION  
Joshi Shri Mahesh

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

- (a) whether the Railways have approved private participation in container and freight operations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the private companies in this regard;
- (c) whether this policy is likely to affect the employment avenue for those working in the railways; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the railways to protect the interest of these railway workers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

- (a): Railways have permitted private participation for movement of container trains only.
- (b): The rules for permission to move container trains on Indian Railways was notified vide the Gazette of India No.458 dated 26.9.2006. Any person individual or a joint venture or a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 with specified field experience and financial capabilities shall be eligible to obtain the permission to move container trains. For Licence purpose, Indian Railway network has been grouped in four categories. For movement of containers, the operators shall arrange rolling stock and containers. Train operation including locomotive, crew and track will be provided by Railways. Already 16 (sixteen) players have taken licence to operate trains.
- (c): No.
- (d): Does not arise.