

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3457
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
NETWORK OF FREIGHT CORRIDORS
K. Shri Parasuraman

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have proposed to set up Agriculture-Retail Chain for creation of a net work of freight Corridors through Public Private Partnership (PPP) across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c) : No, Madam. However, under a pilot project called "Kisan Vision Project", Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and Central Railside Warehouse Company Limited (CRWC) were asked to provide infrastructure at six locations on Indian Railways to encourage development of facilities for setting up of cold storage and temperature controlled perishable cargo centers as well as developing agri – retail outlets to be allotted to different parties through Public private partnership (PPP) mode.

The details and the present status of the said projects is as under:-

- (i) Nasik (Maharastra): The centre located in Nasik District of Maharastra is functional.
- (ii) New Azadpur (Delhi): Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR) has been entrusted with the responsibility of developing Perishable Cargo Centre at New Azadpur, Adarsh Nagar, New Delhi.
- (iii) New Jalpaiguri (West Bengal): The perishable Cargo Centre at Bagdogra airport was taken over by CONCOR on 22.02.2011 from Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development Authority (SJDA) which was functional. Under the provision of agreement signed between SJDA & CONCOR, SJDA was required to obtain requisite license from State Government authorities. SJDA was not able to obtain the same and the facility is intended to be returned back.
- (iv) Singur (West Bengal): The Perishable Cargo Centre was made functional on 18/12/2011. However, due to very low utilization, the service provider has abandoned the contract. Expression of interest for fresh contract for operation and maintenance of the facility has been floated.
- (v) Dankuni (West Bengal): Central Railside warehouse Company Ltd. has been entrusted with the responsibility of developing Perishable Cargo Centre at Dankuni.
- (vi) Mecheda/ Murshidabad (West Bengal): The Perishable Cargo Centre at Murshidabad (in lieu of Mecheda) has not been found viable as per study taken by CONCOR.

In addition to the above, CRWC has been entrusted to carry out the preliminary work such as surveys pertaining to availability of land, feasibility; layout plans etc for construction of temperature controlled storages at 10 locations in the country to boost rail movement of fruits & vegetables in different part of the country. CRWC has been allowed a maximum of two years of gestation period from the date of executing individual agreement with the Railways for construction and operationalization on the ware houses complex.