

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3604
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
INTRODUCTION OF AFTO SCHEME
Ramachandran Shri Krishnan Narayanasamy

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have launched an innovative scheme named Automobile Freight Train Operator (AFTO) to increase Railway's market share in transportation of automobile and has attracted adequate investments from private operators in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the investments made by automobile companies under this scheme since introduction; and
- (c) the details in regard to performance under the Special Freight Train Operator (SFTO) Scheme since the introduction of the scheme by the Railways?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) : Yes, Madam. Two firms viz M/s Maruti Suzuki India Limited and M/s APL Vascor Automotive Private Limited have been registered under the AFTO scheme.

M/s Maruti Suzuki India Limited has been given approval for procurement of six rakes of BCACBM wagon to the tune of Rs. 80 Crores approximately. Out of these, two rakes have been procured and are running on IR system.

M/s APL Vascor Automotive Private Limited has been given approval for procurement of three rakes of BCACBM wagon to the tune of Rs. 40 crores approximately. Out of these, one rake has been procured and is running on IR system.

(c) M/s Fourcee Infrastructure Equipment Private Limited and M/s Jindal Steel and Power limited have been registered under Special Freight Train Operator (SFTO) Scheme.