

Kisan Rail

February 7, 2020

Source: PIB & Union Budget 2020-21

In line with the **goal of doubling farmers' incomes by 2022** Union Government in its Budget 2020-21 initiated the Kisan Rail scheme. The budget proposes that "To build a **seamless national cold supply chain for perishables, inclusive of milk, meat and fish**, the Indian Railways will set up a "Kisan Rail"-**through PPP arrangements. There shall be refrigerated coaches in Express and Freight trains as well."**

Initiatives that have already been taken by the Indian Railways:

Towards fulfillment of the budget proposals, following are the **major initiatives** which have already been taken by Indian Railways **regarding Development of Cold Chain for Transportation of Perishable Traffic**

- **Refrigerated Parcel Vans:** New design of Refrigerated Parcel Vans (VPR, carrying capacity of 17 tonnes) **for transportation of highly perishable** parcel traffic was developed, and procured through Rail Coach Factory **Kapurthala**. At present, the Indian Railway has a fleet of nine (09) Refrigerated Parcel Vans available.
- These Refrigerated Parcel Vans are booked on a round-trip basis and are charged at 1.5 times the freight of normal VP as per the category of the train.
- **Reefer (Ventilated Insulated) Rail Containers:** 98 Ventilated Insulated Containers (Carrying capacity 12 Tonnes per container, rake composition 80 containers) have been procured, through CONCOR, **for movement of fruits and vegetables to different parts of the country.**
- **Cold Storage Facilities for Perishables:** 'Temperature controlled perishable cargo centres' have been

commissioned at Ghazipur Ghat (U.P), New Azadpur (Adarsh Nagar, Delhi) and Raja ka Talab (U.P) as a pilot project under Kisan Vision Project by CONCOR under CSR initiative. Another project is under construction at Lasalgaon, Nasik (Maharashtra).

- Approval has been granted to Central Railside Warehousing Corporation (CRWC) to develop temperature controlled storages at Fatuha and Mancheswar.
- The cold storage facility has also been developed at **Dadri**. Fresh & Healthy Enterprise Ltd. (FHEL) has been redeveloped as Agriculture Logistic Center at Rai, Sonapat. This facility is CONCOR's 100% own subsidiary developed in an area of 16.40 acres of land.