

Achievements of Indian Railways and its Future Planning

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Abstract

Indian Railway achieved enormous growth in the last ten years and it is planning to develop further with the young entrepreneurs, technology developers and innovators, through Startups, to get low cost user friendly reliable products and solutions for use on Indian Railways network. In order to enhance operational efficiency and to strengthen the rail infrastructure Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) policy is the suitable one. Operational efficiency for warehousing loading/unloading, management, station services, automation, and digitization of various processes it has been realized that all these work could be outsourced to the private sector. Indian Railways has been losing freight share to other competitive and flexible modes such as the roads over the years. High logistics cost remains a challenge for the business community in the country. India's low rail freight share and fare-to-freight ratio, and high operating ratio compared to the developed nations require consistent effort. This article tries to highlight its achievements and its future plan to reduce the cost and using of advanced technology to achieve faster growth.

Keywords

Public,partnership,logistics,freight,digitilization,planning,network,operational efficiency

Introduction

.Country is witnessing an exponential growth in technology sector. Products and industry solutions, developed by industry and entrepreneurs using emerging and evolving next-gen technology tools like IoT, big data analytics, cloud computing, drones, MEMS, composites, Shape memory alloys etc. are now being widely used by various sectors in the country. If railways utilized all these technology efficiently it could reduce its expenses.

Indian Railway intends to engage with the young entrepreneurs, technology developers and innovators, and Startups, to get low cost user friendly reliable products and solutions for use on Indian Railways network. With the objective of harnessing technological, economical and operational benefits offered by next-gen innovative and emerging technologies and also promoting Startup culture in the country, railways could achieve more growth within a short span of time. Indian Railways took action to reduce the cost by introducing technology and inviting entrepreneurs.

Objective

To know the achievements of Indian railways and its future plans with regard to technology upgradation

Indian Railway intends to engage with the young entrepreneurs, technology developers and innovators, through Startups, to get low cost user friendly reliable products and solutions for use on Indian Railways network With the objective of harnessing technological, economical and operational benefits offered by next-gen innovative and emerging technologies and also promote Startup culture in the country,.

Review of Literature

The Railway Ministry stated that to meet the requirements of the upcoming years current infrastructure needs to be augmented so as. To keep up with the rapid and sustained growth in travel, the capacity of major cities to originate new trains needs to be doubled in the next five years.

Ministry highlighted actions needed for doubling the originating capacity by the year 2030, it plans to augment the current terminals with additional platforms, identify and create new terminals in and around the urban area, construct maintenance facilities, including mega coaching complexes and increase the sectional capacity with traffic facility works, among others.

Indian Railways has substantially improved travel facilities for economically weaker passengers, increasing the availability of non-AC seats to 54 lakh people...:

Research Analysis

In 2025 fiscal year, Indian Railways achieved record freight loading of over 1.61 billion tonnes and surpassed US in the case of freight carrying with annual, earning of ₹2.62 lakh crore in revenue and , making India's railway network the second largest in terms of annual freight carrying capacity



Source: Indian Railways achievements and initiatives: Transforming the railway sector

<https://railanalysis.in/rail-news/indian-railways-achievements-and-initiatives-transforming-the-railway-sector/> february ,6st 2024

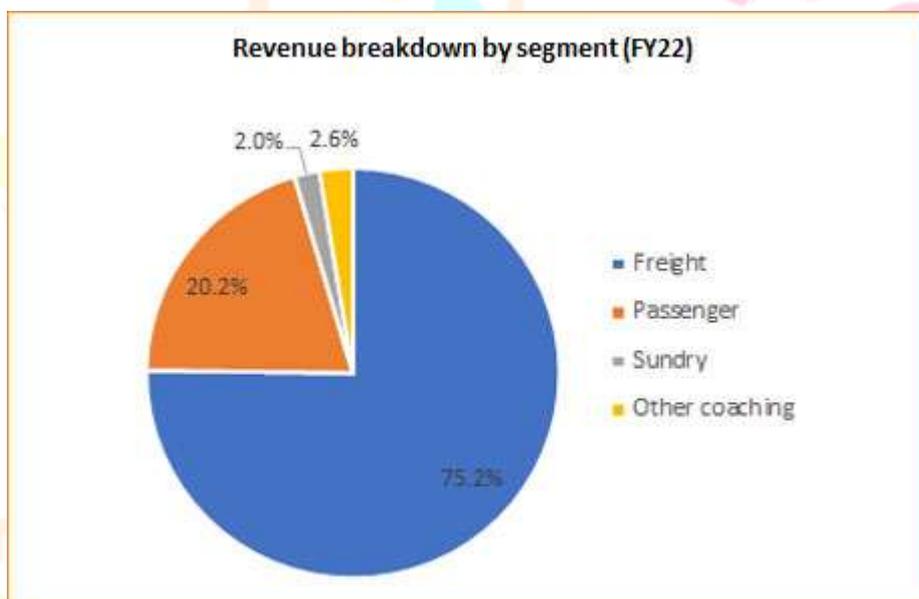
As of 2025 Indian Railways, , has expanded 35,000 km of track, produces 30,000 wagons and 1,500 locomotives annually. Its freight share increased to 29 %, Train accidents were reduced by 80 %,It is planning to introduce 1,000 new trains and bullet train operations by 2027

As Indian railways keep achieving growth in terms of production, and also providing services to common man it attracts more Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). FDI inflows in railway-related components stood at Rs. 9,163 crore (US\$ 1.43 billion) from April 2000- March 2025.

Revenue of Indian railway sector is expected to grow 5 % in FY26, with operating margins around 12 %, supported by government capital outlay of Rs. 2,52,000 crore (US\$ 29.41 billion) and a strong order book-to-income ratio of 2.77

India is projected to account for 40% of the total global share of rail activity by 2050. The government announced its plan of constructing 5,000 km of Metro rail network by 2047 in 100 cities. Number of Passenger travelling in train grew by 6 % in FY25. Nearly 7 billion passengers, using train for travelling, therefore its revenue is rising nearly 50 % to Rs. 75,215 crore (US\$ 8.7 billion), Introduction of Vande Bharat trains and higher chair car earnings helps to increase its revenue.

Revenue of Indian Railways segment wise



Source; **Growth of Indian Railways – Infographic**

<https://www.ibef.org/uploads/industry/Infographics/large/railways-infographic-august-2025.pdf>, August 2025

At the same time there are some constraints After careful analysis of the major constraint of capital inadequacy in Startup ecosystem, primarily in the seed and “Proof of Concept” ,developmental stage, new policy was introduced which provides necessary seed fund..It supports up to Rs. 1.5 Cr (on matching contribution basis), to the Startups showing capability, intent and promise to produce functional prototypes, based on new innovative concepts, for potential use on Indian Railways. This policy document lays down a broad framework for engagement of Ministry of Railways with Innovators for development of technology, products and need based solutions for Indian Railways

Conclusion

Railways in India has been losing freight share to other competitive and flexible modes such as the roads over the years. High logistics cost remains a challenge for the business community in the country. the International

Benchmarking section. India's low rail freight share and fare-to-freight ratio, and high operating ratio compared to the developed nations suggests that increasing the rail modal will require consistent effort

In order to enhance operational efficiency and to strengthen the rail infrastructure through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). Operational efficiency for warehousing loading/unloading, management, station services, automation, and digitization of various processes it has been realized that all these work could be outsourced to the private sector. Various Government of India initiatives like Startup India, Atal Innovation Mission, Make in India – Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan, Innovations for Defence Excellence etc. provide an enabling framework for motivating and encouraging Indian entrepreneurs and innovators to come forward for development of innovative technologies, products and technological solutions to address technological needs of various sectors in the country

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