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## Budget update - TCI wish List for the Railway Budget

Thursday, 02 Jul, 2009

Recommendations for the Railway Budget 2009-2010 by Mr DP Agarwal CMD of Transport Corporation of India, Asia's largest integrated supply chain solutions provider:

1. As the existing rail network is not adequate as compared to the burgeoning rail freight business, it should be expanded and dedicated freight lines should be upgraded and accelerated to avoid congestion on the operative routes. The number of existing rakes, wagons and racks should also be substantially increased to cater to the increasing demand.
2. To commit timely delivery of goods, Railways should run the freight trains like passenger trains that is time scheduled freight trains in all major routes to ensure better customer service
3. Loading and unloading times must be increased for full wagons. Improve handling at terminals. The handling work at terminals is done by the pre approved labor force, who work at their own pace and charge high rates. Allowing outside labor will reduce the time spent on loading unloading of the rakes leading to a quicker turnaround time
4. The Rail ministry should follow a PPP model wherein building the network, tracks, terminals, haulage points etc. would be undertaken by the railways while the running of freight trains would be the responsibility of private players
5. The Arbitrator of disputes should be moved to an independent authority. Any loss or claim against the railways is referred to the Arbitrator for settlement. There should be a third party to look into these matters
6. As proposed by Indian Railways earlier, it should work towards the development of multi-modal logistics park along the eastern and western freight corridors much earlier than the freight corridors are established. This will ensure road & rail traffic flows to get oriented by the time the freight corridors are operational.

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