

Ministry of Railways unveils “Mission 41k”

Hon’ble Minister of Railways Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu unveiled Mission 41k during the Roundtable Discussion with External Stakeholders on Energy Initiatives of Indian Railways.

Ministry of Railways has come up with **Mission 41k to save Rs. 41000 crore in the next decade in Railways’ energy costs.** To implement this comprehensive strategy with the participation of various stakeholders, Hon’ble Minister said that they shall take advantage of regulatory frameworks, look at new technologies. He said that this is an opportunity to relook at everything and determine an ideal baseline. All electrification works done in the last decade would be doubled and this would change the energy mix of Indian Railways. Indian Railways has set a target of 1000 MW of solar power and 200 MW of wind energy.

Shri Prabhu also informed that around 15 – 16 Roundtable Conferences with Stakeholders are in the pipeline on various initiatives of Indian Railways. He said that a Round Table discussion is planned on Data Analytics. Indian Railways generates massive amounts of data and has a huge captive audience. Ability to optimally utilize these will generate additional revenue for the Indian Railways.

Chairman Railway Board, Shri AK Mital said that a target of moving 45% of the freight traffic can be achieved only when it can move freight in a cost efficient manner. By procuring electricity through open access, the cost of electricity procurement comes down drastically which contributes 25% of the working expenses. He also said that **Ministry of Railways has launched Mission Raftaar to increase the average speed of movement by 5 kmph every year.** Another important Mission for Indian Railways is the establishment of High Horse Power (HP) Locomotive manufacturing plants at Madhepura and Marhaura.

Ministry of Railways want to take electrification to 90% in next few years through our **Mission Electrification** with an aim to reduce dependence on imported fuel, change energy mix, and rationalize the cost of energy for Railways. As part of this, it has embarked upon electrification of additional 24,000 Rkm, i.e. about 90% of Railway BG routes in next 5 years by taking the present rate of electrification from 2000 Rkm to 4000 Rkm in next 2 years. To achieve this, Ministry of Railways have planned to incorporate EPC Mode of Contracts for Railway Electrification Projects, mechanize the execution through Self Propelled Wiring Trains etc. This will increase the mobility, reduce energy bill to improve viability of Railways and also reduce carbon footprint. Ministry of Railways wish to develop partnership, improve our delivery of electrification projects by having suggestions from industry.

The Roundtable Discussion was attended by members and senior officials from the Railway Board and representatives from various Government and Private agencies in the field of energy, International Experts and Industry Associations.

Please contact for any query related to this mail to Ms. Surbhi Sharma, Sr. Research Officer at surbhi@phdcci.in with a cc to Dr. S P Sharma, Chief Economist, PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Warm regards,

Dr. S P Sharma
Chief Economist & Director-Research

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry
PHD House, 4/2 Siri Institutional Area
August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110016
Ph.: + 91-11-26863801-04, 49545454 Ext (135)
Fax: +91- 26855450, 49545451
Email: spsharma@phdcci.in
Website: www.phdcci.in

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PHD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

PHD House, 4/2 Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi - 110 016 (India)
Tel. : +91-112686 3801-04, 49545454, 49545400 - Fax : +91-11-2685 5450 - E-mail : research@phdcci.in - Website : www.phdcci.in