



Railways Sets New Record in Passenger Traffic as well as Cargo Transport in 2025–26

Indian Railways Carries 741 Crore Passengers this Year; Up 3.54% from Previous Year

Passenger Revenue Rises 5.96% as Indian Railways Boosts Earnings from ₹75,500 Crore in 2024-25 to ₹80,000 Crore in 2025–26

With 3.25% Higher Freight Loading, Railways Carries Record 1670 Million Tonnes Cargo

More than 13% Surge each in Both Fertiliser and 'PI & Steel' Transportation Drives The Impressive Growth

Iron Ore Transportation Up by 6.74%; Cement by 4.74%

South Western Railway, North Central Railway, East Coast Railway, and West Central Railway Zones Lead the Impressive Performance by Registering Double Digit Growth in Freight Loading

Posted On: 01 APR 2026 4:20PM by PIB Delhi

Indian Railways has achieved significant milestones in both passenger operations and freight during 2025–26, setting new records in cargo transport while also reporting robust growth in passenger traffic and revenue. These achievements reflect sustained improvements in operational efficiency, capacity enhancement, and the growing reliance on rail-based transportation by both key sectors of the economy and everyday commuters. Together, they underscore Railways' pivotal role as a backbone of the nation's logistics network and a provider of safe, reliable, and accessible mobility for citizens across the country.

Increased Passenger Traffic and Revenue Growth

Indian Railways has reported robust growth in passenger traffic and revenue for the fiscal year. The total number of passengers carried rose to 741 crore in 2025–26, a 3.54% increase over 716 crore in 2024–25, reflecting sustained growth in rail usage across the country. Correspondingly, total revenue reached

approximately ₹80,000 crore in 2025–26, marking a 5.96% increase from ₹75,500 crore in 2024–25, driven by strong passenger traffic and earnings. These figures underscore Indian Railways' expanding role in passenger mobility and its improving financial performance year-on-year.

Freight Growth Highlights Increasing Logistics Demand

IR Commodity wise loading position FY 25-26 & FY 24-25			
Commodity	FY 25-26 loading (MT)	FY 24-25 loading (MT)	Variation (%)
Coal	818.60	822.78	-0.51
RMSP	31.31	29.53	6.03
PI & Steel	76.88	67.97	13.11
Iron Ore	190.12	178.12	6.74
Cement	157.17	150.05	4.74
Foodgrains	48.75	49.77	-2.05
Fertilizers	68.01	59.93	13.49
POL	51.70	50.80	1.78
Container	93.69	88.73	5.59
Other Goods	133.71	119.71	11.69
Total	1669.93	1617.39	3.25

During 2025–26, Indian Railways carried a record 1670 Million Tonnes (MT) of freight, registering a growth of 3.25% over the previous year. This strong performance was complemented by a 4.56% increase in the number of wagons handled, which rose from 2,79,12,271 in 2024–25 to 2,91,86,475 in 2025–26. The steady rise in freight loading highlights the increasing demand for reliable, cost-effective, and efficient logistics solutions, positioning Railways as a preferred mode of transport for bulk commodities.

रिकॉर्ड 1,670 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन का कार्गो रेलवे ने इस साल अचीव किया है : माननीय रेल मंत्री @AshwiniVaishnaw जी pic.twitter.com/gfwNv54aiO

— Ministry of Railways (@RailMinIndia) April 1, 2026

Fertilisers, Pig Iron, and Finished Steel Drive Impressive Growth

The growth has been largely driven by key sectors such as Fertilisers (13.49%), 'Pig Iron and Steel' (13.11%). This reflects both the rising demand for agricultural inputs across regions and the continued expansion of industrial activity, particularly in the steel sector.



Iron Ore and Cement Sustain Infrastructure Momentum

Core infrastructure commodities have also played a crucial role in sustaining this momentum. Iron Ore transportation increased by 6.74%, reaching 190.12 MT, while Cement loading grew by 4.74% to 157.17 MT. These trends indicate ongoing infrastructure development and construction activity across the country, where Railways continues to serve as a vital logistics partner.



IR Railway wise loading position FY 25-26 & FY 24-25			
Railway	FY 25-26 loading (MT)	FY 24-25 loading (MT)	Variation (%)
CR	79.34	82.53	-3.87
EC	203.42	202.63	0.39
ECO	286.26	259.25	10.42
ER	101.66	100.87	0.78
KR	2.43	2.48	-2.02
NC	20.97	18.62	12.62
NE	3.95	3.94	0.25
NF	11.39	10.67	6.75
NR	52.26	55.67	-6.13
NW	30.53	29.03	5.17
SC	147.87	144.14	2.59
SE	210.41	212.37	-0.92
SEC	261.25	253.21	3.18
SR	42.13	41.67	1.10
SW	52.46	45.66	14.89
WC	58.07	52.76	10.06
WR	105.54	101.9	3.57
IR TOTAL	1669.93	1617.39	3.25

Zone-wise loading performance during 2025–26 reflects broad-based growth across several regions, with South Western Railway (SWR) recording the highest increase of 14.89% over the previous year. Other zones demonstrating strong double-digit growth include North Central Railway (NCR) at 12.62%, East Coast Railway (ECoR) at 10.42%, and West Central Railway (WCR) at 10.06%. Additional zones that registered positive growth include Eastern Railway (ER) (0.78%), East Central Railway (ECR) (0.39%), North Eastern Railway (NER) (0.25%), Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) (6.75%), North Western Railway (NWR) (5.17%), South Central Railway (SCR) (2.59%), South East Central Railway (SECR) (3.18%), Southern Railway (SR) (1.10%), and Western Railway (WR) (3.57%). This widespread improvement across zones highlights balanced regional development and enhanced freight handling capacity across the Indian Railways network.

Strong Growth in Freight Earnings

In addition to strong loading performance, Indian Railways has also registered robust freight earnings, which have reached approximately ₹1,77,754 crore in 2025–26, reflecting a 1.44% increase over ₹1,75,302 crore in 2024–25. Among commodities, Iron Ore emerged as the highest revenue contributor with earnings of ₹14,600.51 crore, followed by Cement (₹13,599 crore), Pig Iron & Finished Steel (₹12,181 crore), Fertilisers (₹9,039 crore), Food Grains (₹8,312.5 crore), and Mineral Oil (₹7,249.54 crore).

Railways Continues to Drive Growth and Connectivity

Building on its achievements in freight, Indian Railways has also seen sustained growth in passenger traffic and revenue, reflecting its expanding role in providing reliable and efficient mobility across the country. This consistent performance underscores Railways' pivotal contribution to the nation's economic development, enhancing connectivity, reducing logistics costs, and supporting a more sustainable and efficient transport ecosystem.

Dharmendra Tewari/ Dr. Nayan Solanki/ Ritu Raj/ Ruchika

(Release ID: 2247768) Visitor Counter : 825
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