



**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU**  
( Research Unit )  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India



**“KISAN RAIL”**

*A Boon for Farmers*

(Ministry of Railways)

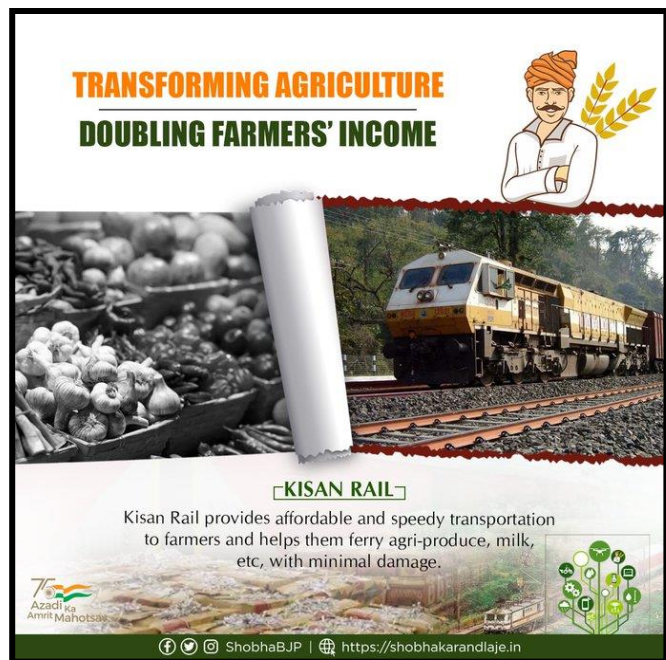
July 12, 2022

*“The Kisan Rail project not only shows the commitment of the Government to serve the farmers but also serves as a proof of how fast our farmers are ready for new possibilities.”*

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi<sup>1</sup>**

**Introduction**

Kisan Rail<sup>2</sup> is a step to enable farmers to utilize the vast railway network to gain access to distant, bigger and more lucrative markets. Access to such markets will enable farmers to sell their produce at a better price. The idea behind running Kisan Rail services is to move perishables including fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, fishery and dairy products from the areas of production or surplus regions to consumption or deficient regions, and speedy movement of these perishables to ensure minimum damage during transit.



<sup>1</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1684144>

<sup>2</sup> [https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/secretary\\_branches/IR\\_Reforms/Kisan%20Rail%20-%20A%20Boon%20for%20Farmers.pdf](https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/secretary_branches/IR_Reforms/Kisan%20Rail%20-%20A%20Boon%20for%20Farmers.pdf)

## Need for the Initiative

Farmers, especially small and marginal farmers, often find it difficult to sell their produce in markets beyond a certain distance, primarily due to factors such as non-availability of affordable transport, delay in transit resulting in damage/decay to produce, and the unwillingness of road transporters to carry small-sized consignments. In order to overcome such hurdles which have been preventing small and marginal farmers from reaching larger markets, **an announcement was made in the Union Budget 2020-21 for Indian Railways to set up a ‘Kisan Rail’ for transportation of perishables, inclusive of milk, meat and fish.**<sup>3</sup>

### Salient Features:

- Vast network of Indian Railways enables farmers from remote villages to connect to the mainstream market and sell their agricultural produce.
- It saves time and encourages farmers to transport their perishables to greater distances and bigger markets.
- Under the Indian Railways’ Kisan Rail Project, potential circuits for the movement of vegetables, fruits, and other perishables are being identified in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Agriculture/Animal Husbandry/Fisheries Departments of State Governments.<sup>4</sup>
- Under the **‘Operation Greens – TOP to Total’** scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), **50% subsidy in freight** is granted on transportation of fruits and vegetables through Kisan Rail trains services.<sup>5</sup>



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[https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/secretary\\_branches/IR\\_Reforms/Kisan%20Rail%20-%20A%20Boon%20for%20Farmers.pdf](https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/secretary_branches/IR_Reforms/Kisan%20Rail%20-%20A%20Boon%20for%20Farmers.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1694862>

<sup>5</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1693300>

- Kisan Rails are based on the concept of multi-commodity, multi-consignor, multi-consignee and multi-stoppages – to help small farmers with lesser produce to transport their consignment without any middleman.
- There is no minimum limit on quantity that can be booked, enabling small farmers to reach bigger and distant markets.

### Key Highlights of Kisan Rail

- The [first Kisan Rail service](#)<sup>6</sup> was flagged off on August 07, 2020, between Devlali (Maharashtra) and Danapur (Bihar).
- The [100<sup>th</sup> trip](#)<sup>7</sup> under the Kisan Rail scheme – between Sangola (Maharashtra) and Shalimar (West Bengal) – was flagged-off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28 December 2020.



➤ As of 24.12.2021, the Indian Railways has operated [1806 Kisan Rails](#)<sup>8</sup> on **153 routes** and carried around **5.90 lakh tonnes of agricultural products**.

➤ Kisan Rail trains are run on time-tabled paths, and are being monitored for punctuality as well as to ensure that perishable commodities reach their destinations within due time, and also that Indian Railways' resources are utilized in the most optimal manner.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1693300>

<sup>7</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1729828>

<sup>8</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1786819>

<sup>9</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1693300>

- Main crops/farm-produce transported via Kisan Rail train include oranges, onion, potato, banana, mango, tomato, pomegranate, custard apple, capsicum, chikoo, carrot, etc.<sup>10</sup>
- Besides fruits and vegetables, Kisan Rail services are also gaining popularity as medium for transportation of other perishable articles like flowers, dairy products, eggs and fishes etc.<sup>11</sup>
- So far, no difficulties have been faced during the transportation of goods through Kisan rail services. Halts, number of trips and composition of time-tabled Kisan Rail services and introduction of new services are finalized in consultation with farmers and consignors.
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### References:

- [https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/secretary\\_branches/IR\\_Reforms/Kisan%20Rail%20-%20A%20Boon%20for%20Farmers.pdf](https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/secretary_branches/IR_Reforms/Kisan%20Rail%20-%20A%20Boon%20for%20Farmers.pdf)
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### Twitter:

- <https://twitter.com/pmoindia/status/1343814994958364675?lang=en>
- <https://twitter.com/ShobhaBJP/status/1535242996316180482>

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid

<sup>11</sup>

[https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/secretary\\_branches/IR\\_Reforms/Kisan%20Rail%20-%20A%20Boon%20for%20Farmers.pdf](https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/secretary_branches/IR_Reforms/Kisan%20Rail%20-%20A%20Boon%20for%20Farmers.pdf)