

Railways to introduce 'Kisan Rail' - A Special Parcel Train from Devlali to Danapur

By TIOL News Service

NEW DELHI, AUG 07, 2020: IN the Union Budget 2020-21, Minister of Finance had made an announcement 'to build a seamless national cold supply chain for perishables, inclusive of milk, meat, and fish'. It was also stated that the Indian Railways will set up a KISAN RAIL.

As announced in the current year's Union Budget by Finance Minister, Indian Railways is introducing first "Kisan Rail" from Devlali to Danapur tomorrow on 07/08/2020 at 11:00 hrs from Devlali. The train will be flagged off via video conferencing by Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Rural Development and Panchyati Raj, Mr Narendra Singh Tomar and Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, Mr Piyush Goyal. The event shall be attended by other dignitaries from Maharashtra. The train will run on weekly basis with initial composition of 10 +1 VPs. The train will reach Danapur at 18:45 hrs. on next day covering the journey of 1519 kms. in 31:45 hrs.

The train will provide seamless supply chain of Perishable produce. This train is a step towards realizing the goal of doubling farmers' incomes by 2022. Indian Railways aims to help double farmers' income with the launch of Kisan Rail. This train will help in bringing perishable agricultural products like vegetables, fruits to the market in a short period of time. The train with frozen containers is expected to build a seamless national cold supply chain for perishables, inclusive of fish, meat and milk.

Over Central Railway, Bhusawal Division is primarily an Agro based division. Nasik and surrounding region produces huge quantity of fresh vegetables, fruits, flowers, other perishables, onions and other agro products. These perishables are mainly transported to areas around Patna, Prayagraj, Katni, Satna etc.

This train has been provided scheduled halts at Nasik Road, Manmad, Jalgaon, Bhusawal, Burhanpur, Khandwa, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Satna, Katni, Manikpur, Prayagraj Chheoki, Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Nagar and Buxar.

The chargeable rates for major pair of stations are as under:

Freight per Tonne :

Nasik Road/Devlali to Danapur	Rs. 4001
Manmad to Danapur	Rs. 3849
Jalgaon to Danapur	Rs. 3513
Bhusawal to Danapur	Rs. 3459
Burhanpur to Danapur	Rs. 3323

Khandwa to Danapur	Rs. 3148
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Indian Railways have earlier run single commodity special trains like Banana Specials etc. But this will be the first ever multi commodity trains and will carry fruits like Pomegranate, Banana, Grapes etc and vegetables like Capsicum, Cauliflower, Drumsticks, Cabbage, Onion, Chillies etc. Aggressive marketing is being done with local farmers, loaders, APMC and individuals. Demand is being aggregated. It is expected that the train will be patronised well and will be a great help to the farmers, as freight of this train will be charged as per parcel tariff of normal train (P Scale).