DECLINING GROWTH OF PASSENGER AND FREIGHT TRAFFIC ON INDIAN RAILWAYS

**PASSENGER TRAFFIC GROWTH**
- The growth rate of passenger traffic has been declining rapidly.
- There is a marginal growth during the 12th Plan period, which also witnessed significant hike in tariffs.

**FREIGHT TRAFFIC GROWTH**
- The growth rate of freight traffic has been declining.
- Low CAGR of freight traffic during 12th Plan is despite a GDP growth rate 6.2% reported during the same period.

**FACTORS LEADING TO THE DECLINING SHARES**
- Inadequate rail infrastructure
- Changing patterns of commodity wise demand for transport
- Increasing rail transport/freight costs
- No guaranteed time of delivery
- Competition from other modes
- Operations of the Railways
- Major perception issues

**STRATEGIES FOR INDIAN RAILWAYS**
- Overcoming infrastructure constraint by investing in facilities like terminals, tracks, stations, etc.
- Improving the reliability of the train services, including passenger and freight trains
- Railways need specific implementable short, medium and long term strategies for commodities
- Identify international best practices and various strategies for Indian railway for revival of freight and passenger traffic

Source: Ministry of Railways