

# Transrail starts rolling

## First caravan of 80 containers reaches Patli

NEW DELHI: Transrail Logistics Ltd. has forayed into container rail operations with the flagging off of first service from Cossipore Road (CED) in Kolkata to Patli in Haryana recently.

The caravan of 80 containers containing multi-commodity cargo of 25 companies has reached Patli. Seventy-six containers were loaded and four were empty.

Given that containers are generally pulled out empty from Kolkata, the high fill factor of 95 per cent is being considered a landmark achievement in the still nascent container rail industry.

Director, Transrail, Vineet Agarwal, who was present at Patli to receive first cargo train, said, “A majority of these containers were door-picked and most of them will be delivered to the customers’ premises.”

“We expect second rake to be available within the financial year and are looking to more rolling stock acquisition soon. For access to terminals, we have entered into an agreement with Adani Logistics Ltd. for their container terminal at Patli. Transrail is also negotiating an agreement with CONCOR for access to some of their terminals,” he added.

Talking about the mantra of success, the young entrepreneur said that “control over cargo is the single most important factor that will separate the men from the boys in this business”.

Agarwal thanked Eastern and Northern Railways for their cooperation.

For an edge, Transrail is using BLL wagons which are different from the BLCs that all other operators have procured.

BLL wagons are 45 feet long and can carry two 22 ft. or one 45 ft. container with ease and 40 wagons make a rake. BLCs are 40 ft. long & can carry only single container and 45 wagons make a rake.

Transrail is the wholly - owned rail business arm of Delhi Assam Roadways Corporation Limited (DARCL). The DARCL was one of the fourteen initial licensees under the scheme thrown open by Indian Railways for privatisation of container train operations.