

- (16) The Indian Railways should improve its speed & efficacy at a time when air travel has emerged as a serious competitor. Discuss

Nerves of Indian transport system Indian railways has been preferred as a mode of transport for centuries

However in recent decade financial as well as operating performance is deteriorating

- * Operating ratio, for 2017-18 is at 98.4%
- * Increasing rail accident i.e. derailling, collisions
- * Delay in arrival & reaching
- * Inability to incrementally raise passenger fares for long-distance as well as suburban service

At the other side civil aviation sector is booming presently third largest civil aviation market in the world having potential of becoming second largest market by 2020. It recorded a air traffic of 131 million passengers in 2016.

Thanks to UDAN scheme as well as avg income level of people This becomes a competitor sector in transport.

However railway has been a cheap transport & robust network with wide reach it should improve speed & efficacy to facilitate the development needs

- * Doubling the tracks thus avoid delays & reduce crossing time
- * Utilization of latest technologies like Artificial intelligence, digital technology in managing train traffic
- * Dedicated app for online ticket booking, railway catering, grievance & complaints filing
- * Upgrading railway through fast superfast trains
ex:- Bullet train, Vande Bharat express
- * Providing station management in the aspect of cleanliness

Implementing recommendations of Bhatnagar Deora committee also helps Indian railways to become competitive