

India and Russia are going to use the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) for combined shipments from December this year, Vice President of Iranian Railways Company Hossein Ashuri said.

North-South Transport Corridor to Benefit Azerbaijan, Russia, Iran BAKU (Sputnik) — India, Russia, Iran, Azerbaijan agreed to use the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) for combined shipments from India to Russia starting from December this year, Vice President of Iranian Railways Company Hossein Ashuri said.

"Shipments from India will be delivered to a southern Iranian port, where it will be further delivered via Azerbaijan to Russia by means of trains and trucks," Ashuri said, as quoted by the Trend news agency. He added that a test container train was shipped via the route two months ago. It took the train 22 days to reach its destination, however, the time of delivery is set to be later reduced to 19 days, Ashuri stressed. The deliveries on the INSTC route will be carried out via the territories of India, the Persian Gulf, Iran Azerbaijan and Russia toward the Nordic countries and the Northern Europe in 14 days.

Nowadays, the containers are shipped from Iran to Azerbaijan by trucks and then loaded onto trains heading to Russia.

The North-South Transport Corridor project aims to reduce the costs and the time of ship, rail and road deliveries to and from Russia, India, Iran, Azerbaijan and other countries located along the route.

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