PRESS RELEASE September 18, 2015 MEDIA INQUIRIES: Anna Humphrey | (703) 875-4357

USTDA TO HELP INDIA'S MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS DEVELOP LEASING AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORKS

NEW DELHI, India – In advance of next week's U.S.-India Strategic & Commercial Dialogue, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency committed funding for a new transportation project that will promote bilateral technical cooperation in India's expansive rail sector.

"Rail networks form a critical backbone of a country's transportation networks and promote economic activity by moving high volumes of cargo and passengers," said USTDA Regional Director Henry Steingass. "USTDA is pleased to partner with India to share U.S. best practices for infusing greater investment into its railways and modernizing its operations."

USTDA provided a grant to India's Ministry of Railways to help the Ministry develop new – and modify existing – leasing and public-private partnership (PPP) frameworks to attract private sector funding for the modernization of India's rail infrastructure. The technical assistance will recommend, based on international best practices, how to refine financing, procurement and operational methods in order to more successfully attract private funding and establish effective PPPs.

The opportunity to conduct the USTDA-funded technical assistance for the Ministry of Railways will be competed through Federal Business Opportunities (FBO). A link to the FBO announcement will be posted to USTDA's website at www.ustda.gov. Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement.

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The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.