

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2524
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2003
PROCUREMENT OF WOODEN SLEEPERS
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railway are still procuring wooden sleepers;
- (b) if so, whether the clips fixed in the wooden sleepers get gradually loosened resulting in frequent derailments of trains;
- (c) if so, the reasons for procurement of wooden sleepers;
- (d) the quantity of wooden sleepers procured by the Railways during the last three years and current year so far; and
- (e) the expenditure incurred thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): No, Sir.

(c): Presently, use of wooden sleepers is limited to steel girder bridges, and other specified locations like non-standard Turnouts, Diamond crossings and complex layouts due to technical reasons. The use of wooden sleepers at steel girder bridges and at specified locations is a standard well known practice all over the world. Railways are accordingly procuring wooden sleepers for use on such locations to meet the minimum requirement.

(d): A quantity of 13444 cum of wooden sleepers has been procured during the year 2002-2003. No quantity was procured during the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. During the current year a tender for supply of 40,000 cum to meet the requirement of next two years is presently under the consideration of Board.

(e): Total expenditure incurred on procurement of 13444 cum of Sal Wood Special Sleepers in the year 2002-2003 is Rs.23,84,61,463.00 (Rupees Twenty Three Crore eighty four lakhs sixty one thousand four hundred sixty three).