

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1802
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2000
PRODUCTION OF BRAKE BLOCKS
PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the production of brake blocks in Dahod and other workshops in Western Railway;
- (b) the rate at which these are being supplied to Western Railway;
- (c) whether these workshops are not able to fully meet the demand;
- (d) if so, the rate at which the same are being purchased from open market;
- (e) whether the Government have asked Dahod and other workshops to increase the output;
- (f) if so, the response of the workshops thereto;
- (g) whether the Government would continue to purchase the above items at higher cost from open market; and
- (h) if so, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) Workshop Avg per month during 1999-2000 (Nos) Weight (Tonnes)

KOTA	13070190.795
DAHOD	45121644.797
AJMER	36094444.662
TOTAL	942851280.254

(b) The brake blocks manufactured in the Railway Workshops are being supplied to Western Railway at rates varying from Rs.113 to Rs.375 per brake block depending upon the design of the brake block and the type of rolling stock. This includes both Metre Gauge and Broad Gauge stock.

(c) Dahod and other workshops are able to fully meet the demand of Western Railway.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) Increase in output is not required as the demand is being fully met. Moreover, composition brake blocks are being increasingly introduced in a phased manner.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Does not arise. However, the Railways have taken a conscious decision to switch over to the use of composition brake blocks on its rolling stock. These brake blocks cost 2 to 2.5 times more but give a life of more than 5 times that of Cast Iron brake blocks and are, therefore, economical to use. The Asbestos free composition brake blocks being inducted are also environmental friendly.

(h) Does not arise.