

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5666  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002  
MODERNISATION OF RAIL COACHES  
RAMCHANDRA PASWAN

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government propose to modernize the rail coaches and to make them more safe and comfortable;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) the names of factories from which advice sought or proposals being invited by the Railway Board in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which the new coaches are likely to be brought out by the railways?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS ~~AND~~ MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) Yes , Sir.

(b) & (c) In order to improve the safety and comfort levels in existing coaches, the coach production units and coach overhauling workshops of Indian Railways were asked to come up with innovative ideas and implement them on one coach each. A competition was held at New Delhi in which such coaches were displayed. All suggestions made by various workshops and Production Units are now under scrutiny. Features found appropriate for adoption on global basis will be advised to Zonal Railways and Production Units for incorporation during overhaul/new manufacture.

Also, an improved version of existing Second Class coaches has been launched as Jan Shatabdi coaches, which have upper class like features. These have been designed in-house by Indian Railways.

In addition, Railways have taken action to upgrade the coach manufacturing technology to derive benefit of higher passenger comfort, safety and lower cost of maintenance and operation by purchasing 24 state-of-the-art coaches from M/s ALSTOM LHB along with transfer of technology to manufacture these coaches in the country. These coaches have state-of-the-art features for improved passenger comfort and safety like flexi coil suspension bogies, noise insulated flooring with anti drumming feature, fibre reinforced Panels, modular toilets with electronic fitting and controlled discharge toilet, centre buffer coupler with anti climbing feature, stainless steel body etc.

(d) The coaches of new design are expected to be brought out within the current financial year.