

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1625
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2007
BASIC AMENITIES IN TRAINS
Dhanaraju Dr. K.;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether toilets of the running trains emanate offensive odour and are unhygienic;
- (b) if so, whether the Railways proposes to change all the toilets of running trains into controlled discharge system;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Railways have introduced bio-toilet project recently; and
- (f) if so, the details and the progress made in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) No, Sir.

(b)to(d) With a view to further improve the sanitation and hygiene at stations, Controlled Discharge Toilet Systems are being provided progressively. Controlled discharged toilets ensure that the discharge of waste takes place only above a pre-determined speed thereby keeping major stations relatively clean. About 400 such coaches have been manufactured up till now. There is no immediate plan to convert all the toilets of existing coaches into controlled discharge type as Railways are also considering totally environment friendly toilets, which will be superior to the controlled discharge toilets.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Specifications for the biological toilets have been finalized. Procurement of the toilet system involving biological degradation of waste is underway. Field trials shall be conducted on one rake before taking a decision for adopting the system on a regular basis.