

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2703
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2004
REPLACEMENT OF STEEL WAGONS WITH ALUMINIUM WAGONS
Meghwal Shri Kailash

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have now decided to replace steel wagons with light aluminium wagons;
- (b) if so, whether production of aluminium wagons has now been started in Chennai (Madras); and
- (c) if so, the details of the difference between the cost of steel wagons and the aluminium wagons, wagon-wise?

Answer

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

- (a) No, Sir. However, it is proposed to conduct field trials with aluminium body wagons.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Actual difference in the cost of a steel wagon and aluminium wagon would only be known after the prototype aluminium wagon is produced. However, it is estimated that initial manufacturing cost of an aluminium wagon would be approximately Rs. 4 lacs more than that of a steel body wagon.