GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6636 ANSWERED ON:06.05.2010 ROLLING STOCKS Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of railway wagons for transportation of foodgrains and fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to encourage cooperatives and Public Sector Undertakings for investment in adding rolling stock;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Railways in this regard; and

(e) if so, the response of the cooperative sectors and PSUs?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. There is no shortage of railway wagons for transportation of foodgrains on Government account and fertilizers as these commodities are loaded on high priority.

(c) & (d): To encourage private investment in rolling stock, various schemes like Own Your Wagon Scheme (OYWS), Wagon Investment Scheme (WIS) and Liberalized Wagon Investment Scheme (LWIS) have been launched by Indian Railways from time to time wherein Cooperatives and PSUs are also allowed to participate.

(e): Cooperatives and PSUs have responded well to these schemes. Under Own Your Wagon Scheme (OYWS), cooperatives and PSUs like Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Limited (IFFCO), Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO), Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF), Indian Oil Cooperation (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board (MPSEB) etc. have participated. Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) has participated in Wagon Investment Scheme (WIS) and National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has participated in Liberalized Wagon Investment Scheme (LWIS).