GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:480
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2009
SHORTAGE OF COACHES AND WAGONS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have been facing shortage of all types of coaches and wagons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Railways propose to start projects under private- public partnership mode to manufacture wagons and coaches;
- (d) if so, the details of the proposal mooted in this regard;
- (e) the response of the private players thereon; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Railways to meet the requirement?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.480 BY SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI AND SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06-08-2009 REGARDING SHORTAGE OF COACHES AND WAGONS.

(a) to (f): Railways are lifeline of the Nation and there is constantly growing demand to introduce more trains in different regions of the country. Taking into account the unfulfilled demands for introduction of trains, there is a shortage of coaches on Indian Railways. To meet with requirement of coaches, the production capacity of the existing Railway production units has been augmented and orders for coach manufacture have also been placed on public and private sector firms.

A new rail coach factory has been sanctioned at Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh. Proposal for setting up of manufacturing factory at Palakkad in Kerala has been announced. Proposal for manufacturing of coaches under Joint Venture/Public Private partnership mode has been announced in the Railway Budget 2009-10 to set up a rail coach factory at Kanchrapara in West Bengal for which preliminary work is in progress.

There is no shortage of wagons except on account of seasonal fluctuations, when pockets of unsatisfied demand for freight transportation are sometimes noticed. At present, manufacture of wagons through public private partnership is not envisaged.