GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4549
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012
SHORTAGE OF WAGONS FOR COMMODITIES
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a huge shortage of wagons for transportation of various commodities, e.g. foodgrains, fertilizers etc. in view of the increased demands in this regard;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken to provide adequate wagons as per demands;
- (d) whether the Railways also propose to encourage/involve Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings, Private Companies etc. in meeting the requirements of rolling stocks including wagons etc.; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response from these quarters and the achievements made so far?

Answer

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

- (a): No, Madam. Adequate numbers of wagons are being made available for transportation of essential commodities by rail.
- (b): Does not arise.
- (c): There was a slight shortfall in wagon production on account of certain public/private sector units underperforming in the last two years, viz., 2009-10 & 2010-11. During the current year, wagon production has picked up and production up to March 2012 is 18,357 wagons against the target of 18,000 wagons. XI plan target of 62,000 wagons has been exceeded. The target for wagon production during the year 2012-13 is 16,000.
- (d) & (e): Yes, Madam. Details of goods wagon manufacturing units in the country are appended. Besides these units, Railways is manufacturing wagons in their workshops at Jamalpur (Eastern Railway), Samastipur (East Central Railway), Golden Rock (Southern Railway), Amritsar (Northern Railway) and Hubli (South Western Railway). The following steps are being taken to enhance wagon production. (i) Outstanding orders and past performance of wagon manufacturers are being taken into consideration while deciding fresh orders (ii) Mid-term diversion of order is being done from non-performing to performing units to promote higher production (iii) In addition, Railways have taken over and revived some of the erstwhile sick public sector wagon manufacturing units. Wagon manufacturing factories have been sanctioned/planned to increase production of goods wagon.

Sanctioned: (i) Assam (ii) West Bengal & (iii) Andhra Pradesh

Planned: (i) Orissa (ii) Karnataka & (iii) Kerala