

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:265
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2012
ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY TOILETS
Patil Shri A.T. Nana;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of bio/environment friendly toilets of different designs in operation in trains/stations, in the country;
- (b) the present status of providing green/environment friendly toilets to the passengers in all the running trains along with funds earmarked for the purpose, during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether all the passenger trains on the entire rail system are likely to be covered under the above project; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, indicating the time-frame chalked out in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 265 BY SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL AND SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 30.08.2012 REGARDING ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY TOILETS.

(a): A total of 68 bio-toilets based on Aerobic bacteria (imported) and 436 bio-toilets based on anaerobic bacteria {developed indigenously by Indian Railways (IR) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)} are in operation in 9 trains in the country. No bio-toilets are provided at the stations.

(b): Status of providing bio-toilets to the passengers in all the running trains in the last 3 years is given below:

Year 2009-10 : Nil
Year 2010-11 : 57 bio-toilets in one train for initial trials
Year 2011-12 : 169 bio-toilets in three trains for initial/
extended trials
Current Year 2012-13 : 210 bio-toilets till August in four trains for
extended trials

No separate funds need to be earmarked for the fitment of these bio-toilets in the new coaches as it is a part of the overall production cost of the new coach.

(c) & (d): Based on the experience gained and outcome of the trials, it is planned to progressively induct these bio-toilets in the other trains. While it would be Indian Railways' endeavour to install environment friendly bio-toilets in all its passenger coaches at the earliest, the time frame for their full scale deployment and investment required will depend upon the changes and modifications necessitated from time to time based on the feedback on its performance and outcome of the trials. The retro-fitment of the bio-toilet tanks below the existing fleet of coaches requires review of the corrosion repair practices and

procedures, renewal of corroded headstock in the underframe of the coach with fitment of mounting brackets involving highly specialized precision welding of high quality. Any fitment failure can affect safety of the train during run.