

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:160
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012
R & D IN WAGONS
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for undertaking research and development (R&D) work for improving the design, standardisation and increasing the capacity/efficiency/efficacy of wagons;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- (c) the other steps being taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) Yes, Madam. A reference was received from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat in the month of February, 2010 which was followed up by a reference from the Principal Secretary to Government of Gujarat in April, 2011 suggesting Railways to develop lighter wagons with higher carrying capacity for salt and other commodities.

(b) & (c): Railways constantly endeavour to improve carrying capacity of wagons by reducing the tare weight. During recent years, new BCNHL type covered wagon built with stainless steel has been introduced by Railways which has a reduced tare weight of 20.80 tonnes against 27.20 tonnes for the earlier BCN design, thereby increasing permissible carrying capacity for different commodities by 5 to 7 tonnes. Design and development efforts are being made on a continuing basis to improve the loadability of wagons.