

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 283
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2018**

COMPOSITE SLEEPERS INSTEAD OF WOODEN

283. SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has decided to replace wooden sleepers with composite sleepers which are not only lighter but also stronger and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Railways has preferred them over wooden sleepers because of environmental issues that cropped up over the cutting of trees and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether all wooden sleepers will be replaced with composite sleepers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): No, Madam. For environmental issues, Indian Railways has already developed and adopted Steel Channel Sleepers as alternative to wooden sleepers. Further, the Composite Sleepers made of polymer matrix have also been developed and adopted.

(c): No, Madam. On broad gauge, wooden sleepers have been replaced with channel sleepers mostly. Composite sleepers are being used as replacement to channel sleepers on some girder bridges.
