GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4427 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025

ORGANIC WASTE OF INDIAN RAILWAYS

4427. SHRI ADITYA YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railway stations generate massive amounts of organic waste daily; and
- (b) if so, the details of the initiatives that are proposed to be taken by the Government in view of the fact that the organic waste can be converted into clean energy, powering station lighting and operational functions?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (b) In Indian Railways, organic waste gets generated through catering services, human waste during passengers' movement, horticulture etc.

Several initiatives have been taken by Indian Railways to handle the organic waste generated including its conversion into energy. Some of the initiatives taken are: Elimination of direct discharge of human waste from trains through installation of bio-toilets in passenger coaches. The details of provision of Bio-toilets (as on 30.06.2025) are as under:

| Period | No. of Bio-Toilets fitted |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| 2004-14 | 9,587 only |
| 2014-25 | 3,33,191 (more than 34 times) |

- Installation of Waste-to-Energy (WTE), Waste to Compost (WTC)
 plants at stations to manage waste, on need basis. Presently,
 there are 19 WTEs and 234 WTCs in Indian Railways.
- Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) have been installed and commissioned, on need basis, at a number of locations over Indian Railways. Presently, 142 STPs are in place.
- Provision of two bin type dustbins has been made at 725 locations for segregation of bio-degradable and nonbiodegradable waste, at source.
- Based on local conditions, feasibility and requirement, tie-ups for waste disposal, have been made between local Railway authorities and municipal bodies.
- Dedicated Environment & Housekeeping Management (EnHM)
 wings have been set up in Zonal Railways to monitor/handle
 waste management related matters.
