

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2789
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2002
CARTELISATION OF MANUFACTURERS OF CEMENT SLEEPERS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railway Accidents are taking place unabatedly due to poor condition of the tracks and the Railways are finding it difficult to change the tracks due to cartelisation of the manufacturers of cement sleepers;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to overcome the cartelisation of cement sleeper manufacturers;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to use steel sleepers in place of wooden and cement sleepers;
- (d) if so, the amount of Railway track that need replacement; and
- (e) the time by which the steel sleepers are likely to be replaced by the wooden sleepers to check frequent railway accidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) There is no proposal to replace the steel sleepers by the wooden sleepers. Existing steel/wooden sleepers are being replaced with concrete sleepers in a planned manner and on a yearly programme basis to ensure safety of track. It is a continuous activity.