

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6557
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2003
PLASTIC SLEEPERS
KAILASH MEGHWAL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways is contemplating to use plastic sleepers in place of wooden and RCC sleepers being used at present ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether plastic sleepers could be manufactures as per requirement ; and
- (d) if so, the locations where factories for manufacturing such sleepers are proposed to be set up alongwith the annual production capacity to be installed in each such factory ?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. For use on Girder Bridges, as an alternative to wooden sleepers, trials are being conducted.
- (b) Two types of sleepers viz. Fibre Reinforced (FRP) and Advanced Composite sleepers have been successfully tested and field trials are in progress.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) No decision has been taken to set up factories for manufacturing of such sleepers as yet as the trials are still on. These are being developed by private manufacturers as per Railway's requirements