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Title : Regarding an environment friendly coach toilet discharge system, as proposed in Budget of 2004-05.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN (MATHURAPUR): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very harmful practice of open defecation by people while travelling by train and I would like to draw the attention to an announcement made by the hon. Railway Minister during his Budget speech in 2004-05.

The hon. Railway Minister, in his Budget speech of 2004-05, *inter-alia*, stated as follows:

"Environment-friendly toilet system: As per policy announced by the Ministry of Rural Development, which envisages total sanitation by the year 2012 and elimination of open defecation all over the country, the Indian Railways have taken up a project development of an environment-friendly coach toilet discharge system, as a part of RSDO's Technology Mission on Railway Safety."

Sir, I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to initiate immediate steps, if not already initiated, to implement the proposed toilet discharge system in order that this environment-deteriorating practice of open defecation is stopped once for all and as early as possible throughout the country. I believe that once implemented, the system would help our countrymen to improve their health and sanitation status to a great extent and we shall be a true civil society.