

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1545
ANSWERED ON 01.08.2025

TARGET TO MANUFACTURE LHB COACHES

1545 # SHRI RAJENDRA GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of general and sleeper class LHB coaches which were targeted to be manufactured by Indian Railways during the last three years;
- (b) the number of general and sleeper class LHB coaches manufactured till the financial year 2024-25; and
- (c) the total number of increase in the production of general and sleeper LHB coaches in 2024-25 as compared to the previous financial years and the chart-wise details of the total number of general and sleeper class LHB coaches manufactured in the previous years and proposed to be manufactured in the coming years?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Indian Railways (IR) have significantly increased the facilities for passengers travelling in general/ sleeper class. During the last financial year 2024-25 alone, 1250 General Coaches have been utilised in various long-distance trains.

To cater to the travel demand of the low and middle income families, Indian Railways have taken up 17,000 non-AC coaches (general/sleeper) over the next 5 years.

On IR, the percentage of non-AC coaches is about 70% as indicated below:

Table 1: Distribution of coaches:

Non-AC coaches (general and sleeper)	~57,200	~70%
AC coaches	~25,000	~30%
Total coaches	~82,200	100%

During 2024-25 and current year 2025-26(upto June'25), 6,020 non-AC coaches (General and Sleeper) have been manufactured as compared to 2,610 non-AC coaches during 2023-24.

Due to higher availability of general coaches, the number of passengers travelling in general/unreserved coaches has shown an increasing trend as shown below:

Table 2: Passengers in general/unreserved coaches:

Year	No. of Passengers
2020-21	99 Cr (Covid year)
2021-22	275 Cr (Covid year)
2022-23	553 Cr
2023-24	609 Cr
2024-25	651 Cr

The number of seats available for non-AC passengers has also increased over the years. The current composition is as follows:

Table 3: Distribution of seats:

Non-AC seats	~ 54 lakhs	~ 78%
AC seats	~ 15 lakhs	~ 22%
Total	~ 69 lakhs	100%

Moreover, to provide greater accommodation for the passengers using General and non-AC Sleeper Coaches, the extant policy regarding composition of Mail/Express trains provides for 12 (Twelve) General class & Sleeper class non- AC coaches and 08 (eight) AC-Coaches, in a train of 22 coaches, thereby providing greater accommodation for the passengers using General and non-AC Sleeper Coaches.

Railways have also developed a fully non-AC modern train named as Amrit Bharat express comprising 8 Sleeper and 11 General Class coaches. Presently, 14 Amrit Bharat services are in operation. These modern trains have advanced features like Semi-Permanent couplers for jerk free travel, horizontal sliding windows, foldable snack tables and bottle holders, mobile holders etc.

Further, to cater to the needs of passengers desirous of availing unreserved accommodation, Indian Railways (IR) operate unreserved non-AC passenger trains/ MEMU/EMU etc. for affordable travel, which are in addition to the unreserved accommodation (coaches) available in Mail/Express services.
