

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1195
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018**

DIRTY CONDITIONS OF BIOTOILETS

**1195. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:
SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were more than two lakh complaints regarding choking, foul smelling and non-functional bio-toilets in trains during 2016-17 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also true that the railways has decided to equip coaches with 10,000 bio-toilets without waiting for results of performance trials of different variants of bio-toilets;

(c) if so, whether the decision for large scale installation of bio-toilets in coaches had been taken in a hurry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) Indian Railways have received some complaints regarding foul smell and choking of bio-toilets in trains. Bio-toilets, being proliferated in Indian Railways' coaches, are sensitive to misuse. Generally, the problems of choking and foul smell in coach lavatories are due to use of toilet pan as garbage bins, inadequate

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water flow in flushing and inadequate ventilation. Choking of toilet pan/bowl makes the bio-toilet non-functional for further use. While educating travelling public to refrain from throwing garbage in the pan/bowl, provision of individual dust bin in each coach lavatory has been made mandatory to make the disposal of waste more convenient, thus preventing the toilet pans/bowls from being dumped with inorganic waste. In addition, improvement to flushing and ventilation systems is also underway to eliminate foul smell.

(b) & (c) No, Madam. The decision for large scale proliferation of bio-toilets based on Bio-digester technology of DRDE (Defence Research and Development Establishment), one of the laboratories of DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) was taken after reviewing, analyzing, examining and considering the in-service performance of such bio-toilets for a period of about 10 months since their induction in passenger services in Bundelkhand Express in January 2011.

(d) Does not arise.
