

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5481  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2023**

**REPLACING LHB COACHES WITH ICF COACHES**

**5481. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU.:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Indian Railways has initiated the work of replacing the conventional ICF coaches with LHB coaches in trains at a rapid pace in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features and benefits thereof and the total number of coaches manufactured in each of the coach manufacturing units during the last three years, year- wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any time limit by which all the existing older coaches are likely to be replaced by the new LHB coaches in all the railway zones in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Railways has also launched the aluminium goods trains in the country; and**
- (e) if so, the details along with its salient features and the expansion plans thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have undertaken replacement of trains running with Integral Coach Factory (ICF) rakes. This is an ongoing process subject to operational feasibility and availability of rolling stocks etc.**

**The salient feature of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches are - superior riding quality, large panoramic windows, provision of bio-toilets, sliding type fire barrier doors, higher seating capacity, FRP (Fibre Reinforced Plastic) panels in AC coaches, sturdy and robust design to minimize damage and obviating capsizing of coaches during accidents, automatic coupling-center buffer coupler for enhanced safety and anti-climbing features, superior disc brakes & efficient brake system, superior microprocessor based AC etc.**

**The Number of LHB coaches manufactured in each of the Production Units namely Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Modern Coach Factory (MCF)/Rae Bareli, during the last three years is - 6277 coaches in 2019-20 (ICF-3419, RCF-928, MCF/RBL-1930), 4323 coaches in 2020-21 (ICF- 1466, RCF- 1497, MCF/RBL- 1360) and 6291 coaches in 2021-22 (ICF-2639, RCF-1840, MCF/RBL- 1812).**

**(d) and (e) 61 number of Aluminium Goods Wagons (BOBRNALHSM1) have been manufactured and launched in the country. Due to lesser tare weight, the throughput capacity of BOBRNALHSM1 is higher as compared to existing BOBRNHSM1 wagon, material of higher densities can be loaded more in comparison to similar mild steel wagons for same axle load, less energy is consumed for hauling these wagons and these wagons have corrosion resistant property. BOBRNALHSM1 type of wagons are available for procurement by private parties under the General Purpose Wagon Investment Scheme (GPWIS). As on date, 01 rake of BOBRNALHSM1 wagons has been inducted under GPWIS.**

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