

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2770
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2021**

MECHANISED CLEANING TECHNIQUES

2770. DR. AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of mechanised cleaning techniques introduced by the Indian Railways for maintaining proper hygiene, cleanliness and sanitation of station premises during the last five years;**
- (b) whether the Ministry is looking at avenues to introduce technology for cleaning where conductive surfaces have not been provided and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of the recommendations in vision 2020 whitepaper on devising a plan to achieve near-zero-waste; and**
- (d) whether the Ministry proposed to introduce scrubber machines having twin movement under the adopted mechanised cleaning system of Railways and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) Indian Railways has introduced mechanized cleaning at major stations to maintain proper hygiene, cleanliness and sanitation within station premises. The mechanized cleaning is carried out using high pressure water jets, mechanised floor scrubber, walk behind automatic scrubber dryer, battery operated ride on scrubber, vacuum cleaner, flippers, wet and dry vacuum cleaner etc., along with the requisite material and manpower.

(b) Efforts are also made for mechanized cleaning on non-conductive surface. Ride on road sweeper machines, high pressure jet machines etc are being used in some Railways for slight non-conductive surfaces. Furthermore cleaning of non-conductive surfaces are generally done using tools like brooms, hand scrubbers, wet mops, wipers etc with recommended chemicals/cleaning agents.

(c) Indian Railways' Vision 2020 targets prioritisation of sanitation and waste management. Following have been envisaged as thrust area for Indian Railways:

- Study of each station for its peculiarities to achieve near-zero-waste by adopting the principle of reduction, recycle and re-use.**
- Infrastructure and amenities like water supply, drainage, sewerage, washable aprons, properly designed platforms and 'pay and use toilets' maintained by competent agencies along with user awareness campaigns.**
- Coordination with city authorities.**
- Enhancement of train cleanliness by retrofitting all coaches with discharge free green toilets.**
- Mechanized cleaning at maintenance terminals.**
- Onboard housekeeping and en-route mechanized cleaning at Clean Train Stations.**
- Maximum recycling of water.**
- Professional assistance for pest and rodent control.**

(d) Scrubbers as mentioned in Standard Bid Document (SBD) for mechanised cleaning includes scrubber machines having twin movement i.e. rotary action of scrubber and translational movement and the same are being used in mechanised cleaning system over Indian Railways.