

RAILWAYS' REQUIREMENT FOR EXTRA RAKES BY 2020

The number of rakes including those of private container operators and others moving freight on the Indian Railways system is approximately 3700 as on 20th July, 2010. As per the projection of the Indian Railways which has been detailed in the Vision-2020 document, Indian Railways expects to carry approximately 2165 million tonnes in the year 2020. For this, additional requirement of rakes has been estimated at 4985 by the year 2020. However, these estimates are subject to change due to the continuous technological upgradation in wagon therein efforts are being to improve the payload to tare ratio.

The cost of one rake comprising 58 BOXNHL wagon at today's price is estimated at Rs. 16.80 crore. The cost of locomotive varies from type to type. Newer locomotives like WDG4 and WAG9 tend to cost more in the initial phase but with gradual process of indigenisation, the costs may come down. As on date, the cost of diesel locomotives, WDG-3A and WDG-4 is Rs 6.6. crore and Rs. 11.5 crore respectively and the cost of electric locomotives, WAG-7 and WAG-9 is Rs 5.78 crore and Rs. 12.77 crore respectively.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Railways, Shri E. Ahamed in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today.