

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STEEL  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1918**  
FOR ANSWER ON 04/08/2021

**DEMAND FOR NEW RAILS FOR INDIAN RAILWAYS**

1918. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is unable to meet demand for new rails for Indian Railways for track renewal and capacity augmentation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the demand received therefor by SAIL during the last three years;
- (c) whether SAIL has taken steps to supply all the required quantity to the agencies including Indian Railways; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI RAM CHANDRA PRASAD SINGH)

(a)&(b): No, Sir. In the last three years and FY 21-22 (Q1), the demand for the following types of new rails has been made by the Indian Railways with SAIL:-

1. R-260 UIC 60 profile rail instead of Grade 880.
2. 60E1 profile instead of UIC 60 profile.
3. 1175 HT rails (Heat Treated rails).
4. 260 meter long rail panel.

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has met the requirement of Indian Railways (IR) in respect of R-260 Grade rail in lieu of Grade 880, 60E1 profile rail in lieu of UIC 60 profile and 260 meter long rail panels comprising bulk of the supplies. The details of supply of new rails to Indian Railways vis-a-vis demand during last three years and FY 21-22 (Q1) is as follows:-

(Quantity in Tonnes)

Sl.	Type of New Rail	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22	
		Demand	Supply	Demand	Supply	Demand	Supply	Demand	Supply (Q1)
1.	R-260 UIC 60 profile	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	12233	12221	NIL	NIL
2.	R260 60E1 profile	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	939313	141689
3.	1175 HT Grade	NIL	NIL	200000*	NIL	181728	NIL	222353	NIL
4.	260 meter long rail panel	Not Specified	442239	Not Specified	632643	Not Specified	735103	783903**	137710***

\* The Bulk Order was modified on 20-8-2019 to include 200000T of 1175HT grade for the year FY 19-20.

\*\* Demand is included in the quantity shown in R-260 60E1 profile for 2021-22.

\*\*\* Includes supply to the extent of 112709 Tonnes R-260 60E1 profile.

**Contd.....2/-**

(c)&(d): Yes Sir. To meet the emerging requirement of Indian Railways, SAIL undertook Modernization and Expansion (MODEX) of Bhilai Steel Plant which includes installation of 1.2 MTPA capacity Universal Rail Mill (URM). The URM in Bhilai Steel Plant has been established to enhance the manufacturing capabilities of rails to cope up with increasing demands of Railways. To fulfill the demand of 1175 HT rails by Indian Railways, Hot commissioning trial of heat treatment facility for heat treated rails started by Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) during the month of March'21.

\*\*\*\*\*