

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1887**  
**ANSWERED ON 04.08.2023**

**BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR MAINTENANCE OF HIMALAYAN RAILWAYS**

1887. DR. C.M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the Budget allocation for maintenance and upkeep of Himalayan Railways during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government have any data about the details of tourists who travelled in Himalayan Railways during the last three years; and
- (c) whether Government propose to replace the existing engine and coaches of the Himalayan Railways with modern coaches and engine to earn more revenue from it, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) Details of expenditure for maintenance and upkeep of Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) during the last three years, year-wise given below:-

(fig. in "Cr" Rs)

2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
25.18	25.21	27.23

Note: There is no separate budget allocation for Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR). Expenditure, as and when needed, is incurred from overall budget of Northeast Frontier Railway.

- (b) Details of tourists who travelled in DHR in the past three years is as follows:-

2020-2021 = 13,733 (covid year)

2021-2022 = 65,712

2022-2023 = 1,56,835

- (c) In order to attract tourists, modern coaches (VISTADOME) with glass rooftop and good quality interiors have been introduced by Indian Railways. Vistadome coaches provide panoramic view, through wider body side windows as well as through transparent sections in the roof, thus enabling the passengers to enjoy the scenic beauty of the places through which they travel. Presently, 23 Narrow Gauge Vistadome coaches are available over Darjeeling Himalayan Railway.

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