

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 288
ANSWERED ON 21.07.2023

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF KAVACH IN RAILWAYS

288. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the implementation and adaptation of 'Kavach' in Indian Trains;
- (b) latest data regarding the number of trains in which Kavach has already been installed;
- (c) the reasons for delay in the implementation of the Kavach since its inception; and
- (d) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to speed up the process of implementation of Kavach in view of the recent accident in Balasore, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d)

1. Kavach is a highly technology intensive system developed indigenously, which requires safety certification of highest order and there is no delay in implementation of Kavach.
2. Kavach aids the loco pilot in train running within specified speed limits by automatic application of brakes in case Loco Pilot fails to do so and also help the train safely run during inclement weather.
3. The first field trials on the passenger trains were started in February 2016. Based on the experience so gained and Independent Safety Assessment of the system by a 3rd party (Independent Safety Assessor: ISA) three firms were approved in 2018-19, for supply of Kavach.

4. Subsequently Kavach was adopted as a National Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system in July 2020.
5. Kavach has so far been deployed on 1465 Route km and 121 locomotives (including Electric Multiple Unit rakes) on South Central Railway.
6. Kavach tenders have been awarded for Delhi – Mumbai & Delhi – Howrah corridors (approximately 3000 Route km) and work is in progress on these routes.
7. Indian Railways is preparing Detailed Project Report (DPR) and detailed estimate for another 6000 Rkm.
8. The amount spent so far on Kavach implementation is Rs.351.91 Crores. The Cost for provision of Track side including Station equipment of Kavach is approximately Rs. 50 Lakhs/Km and cost for provision of Kavach equipment on loco is approximately Rs. 70 lakh/ loco.
9. Presently there are three Indian OEMs who are approved for Kavach. Efforts are being made to develop more vendors to enhance the capacity and scale up the implementation of Kavach. Balasore train accident is not linked with the provision of Kavach.
