

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1411**  
**ANSWERED ON 06.12.2024**

**VANDE BHARAT SLEEPER TRAINS**

1411 SHRI R. DHARMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to introduce Vande Bharat sleeper trains in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed routes and the timeline for the introduction of these trains;
- (c) the features and advantages of Vande Bharat sleeper trains in comparison to traditional sleeper trains;
- (d) whether Government has conducted any feasibility studies or pilot projects for Vande Bharat sleeper trains, if so, the outcomes of such studies or pilots; and
- (e) the timeline for the rollout of Vande Bharat sleeper trains and the time by which it is likely to be started in Tamil Nadu?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1411 BY SHRI R. DHARMAR ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 06.12.2024 REGARDING VANDE BHARAT SLEEPER TRAINS**

(a) to (e) As on 02<sup>nd</sup> December, 2024, 136 Vande Bharat train services, with Chair Car Coaches, are running across the Indian Railways network. Of these, 16 Vande Bharat Express services are catering to the needs of stations located in the States of Tamil Nadu.

However, as the Railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are introduced, as per network requirement, across such boundaries. Besides, introduction of new train services, including Vande Bharat services and its variants, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability, etc.

Presently, Vande Bharat Sleeper Trains planned for long and medium distance journey are equipped with modern features and passenger amenities. Some of the distinguished features and amenities of these trains are as under:

- i. Fitted with KAVACH.
- ii. EN-45545 HL3 fire safety standards compliant train.
- iii. Crashworthy and Jerk-Free Semi permanent couplers and Anti Climbers.
- iv. Crashworthy Design of Carbody complying with EN standards.
- v. Regenerative braking system for energy efficiency.
- vi. Higher Average speed with quick deceleration and acceleration.
- vii. Emergency talk-back unit for communication between Passenger and Train Manager/Loco Pilot in case of emergency.
- viii. Accommodation and accessible toilets for Passengers with Restricted Mobility (PRM) in the driving coaches on each end.
- ix. Centrally controlled Automatic Plug Doors and Fully Sealed wider gangways.
- x. Ergonomically designed ladder for ease of climbing on to upper berths.
- xi. Centralized Coach Monitoring System for better condition monitoring of passenger amenities such as Air conditioning, Saloon Lighting etc.
- xii. CCTV surveillance cameras in all coaches.

The first prototype of Vande Bharat Sleeper trainset has been manufactured and will undergo field trials. The timeline of rollout of train is subject to successful completion of the trials.

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