

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2489
ANSWERED ON 21.03.2025

RUNNING OF KALKA SHIMLA TOY TRAIN ON GREEN HYDROGEN

2489 SHRI A.D. SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested Union Government to run the Kalka Shimla Toys Train on green hydrogen;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard and the response of Government;
- (c) whether Government has agreed to the proposal; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Indian Railways have manufactured, indigenously designed Vistadome type modern Narrow-Gauge coaches. This will provide enhanced passenger comfort and safety and promote tourism on the Kalka-Shimla Railway (KSR) route.

The new coaches are equipped with modern amenities like:

- (i) Wider windows with glare reducing window panes.
- (ii) Improved suspension system for better ride quality.
- (iii) Passenger Announcement and Passenger Information system.
- (iv) Mini pantry.
- (v) Bio- vacuum toilets.

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Further, Indian Railways has taken up a state-of-the-art project for running of its first Hydrogen Train, by awarding a project for retro-fitment of Hydrogen Fuel cell on pilot basis on Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) rake.

This is a fully indigenously developed train by Indian Railways on specifications framed by the Research, Design & Standards Organization (RDSO) to demonstrate the use of Hydrogen Powered Train Technology in Railways.

This is slated to be the longest (10 coaches) and maximum powered (2400 kW) hydrogen train in the world.
