

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 225
ANSWERED ON 19.12.2025

DEFICIENCIES IN VANDE BHARAT SLEEPER TRAINS

*225 DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Vande Bharat Sleeper trains are facing delays due to certain design deficiencies;
- (b) if so, the details of these deficiencies and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) timelines proposed for rectifying these deficiencies and ensuring timely commissioning of the Vande Bharat Sleeper trains?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 225 BY DR. JOHN BRITTAS ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 19.12.2025 REGARDING DEFICIENCIES IN VANDE BHARAT SLEEPER TRAINS

(a) to (c) To cater to long distance travel, the sleeper variant of Vande Bharat Express has been indigenously designed and developed. Two such trains have already been manufactured and are presently under extensive trials/commissioning.

The process of development of new rolling stocks including Vande Sleeper necessitates a holistic approach, combining technological innovation, strategic planning and manufacturing to ensure a safe, reliable and comfortable travel. This involves development of prototype followed by extensive testing and trials which takes time.

With a view to improve travel experience of the passengers, these train sets have been provided with modern coaches having advanced safety features and passenger amenities like:

- Fitted with KAVACH.
- Higher acceleration with design/operating speed of 180/160 KMPH.
- Crashworthy and Jerk-Free Semi permanent couplers and Anti Climbers.
- Crashworthy Design of Car body complying with EN standards.
- EN-45545 HL3 fire safety standards.
- Fire barrier doors at the end of each coach.
- Improved fire safety – Aerosol based fire detection and suppression system in electrical cabinets and lavatories.
- Regenerative braking system for energy efficiency.
- Air conditioning units provided with indigenously developed UV-C lamp based disinfection system.
- Centrally controlled Automatic Plug Doors and Fully Sealed wider gangways.
- CCTVs in all coaches.
- Emergency talk-back unit for communication between Passenger and Train Manager/Loco Pilot in case of emergency.
- For Divyangjan passengers special lavatory in the driving coaches on each end.
- Centralized Coach Monitoring System for better condition monitoring of passenger amenities such as Air conditioning, Saloon Lighting etc.
- Ergonomically designed ladder for ease of climbing on to upper berths.
