GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 700 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.06.2019

LUXURIOUS COACHES

700. SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether train passengers and tourists can now look forward to travelling in the state-of-the-art luxurious coaches having glass ceiling and equipped with infotainment system, similar to that in Switzerland;
- (b) if so, whether the Railways proposes to introduce such indigenous luxurious coaches;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the objective and salient features thereof;
- (d) the cost of these coaches and the manner in which the Railways will protect these coaches from any damage;
- (e) the time by which these are likely to be introduced; and
- (f) whether the Government is also considering export of these coaches and if so, the plan chalked out in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Luxurious coaches with glass ceiling termed as Vistadome coaches having panoramic view have been introduced. Some of these coaches have infotainment system also.

13 such coaches are available on following sections of Indian Railways:

- i) Dadar and Madgaon (1 coach)
- ii) Araku Valley (1 coach)
- iii) Kashmir Valley (1 coach)
- iv) Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (4 coaches)
- v) Kalka Shimla Railway (2 coaches)
- vi) Kangra Valley Railway (1 coach)
- vii) Matheran Hill Railway (1 coach)
- viii) Nilgiri Mountain Railway (2 coaches)

These coaches have larger glass windows and good quality interiors.

- (d): Cost of manufacture of a new Broad Gauge (BG) Vistadome coach is approximately ₹4 crores. The glass windows of the BG Vistadome coaches manufactured in Integral Coach Factory / Chennai have laminated glass sheets which will not shatter, Zonal Railways take necessary precautions wherever necessary during the operation of trains / coaches.
- (e): Vistadome coaches are already running in service.
- (f): No, Sir. Presently, no such proposal is received from any country.
