

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1167  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2022**

**DISBURSAL OF VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS TRAIN IN KERALA**

**1167. SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:**

**SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:**

**ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has finalised the disbursal of Vande Bharat Express train for the State of Kerala;**
- (b) if so, the exact timeline required for the launch of the service in Kerala and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) the details of the routes, fare and capacity decided in this regard;**
- (d) the maximum speed that can be attained by the train in Kerala, which has a number of curves in its rail tracks;**
- (e) whether the Government has any plans to introduce more High Speed and Semi-High Speed trains under the Vande Bharat Scheme and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) the need for K-Rail, a high-speed train service planned by the State Government, when the Vande Bharat express is able to attain high speed and cover long distances in a short time?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (d) Indian Railways (IR) do not run trains, including Vande Bharat train services, on state-wise basis as Railway network straddle across state boundaries. However, introduction of new Vande Bharat services is an on-going process which is dependent on factors like operational**

**feasibility and availability of rolling stock, etc. The Vande Bharat trains presently running over the IR network are Semi-High speed train services, which are being operated using the ultra-modern train sets and *inter alia* have modern features like quick acceleration. The point-to-point fare of these trains depends, *inter alia* on the distance between the stations and are being operated with a composition of 16 coaches.**

**(e) Of the 504 Vande Bharat Rakes sanctioned for induction, IR Production units will manufacture 102 rakes during the period 2022-24. Tenders have also been floated for engagement of technological partner(s) for manufacturing 400 Energy Efficient Vande Bharat Rakes, as announced in Railway Budget 2022-23.**

**(f) At present, no High Speed Rail Corridor is sanctioned in the State of Kerala. However, Kerala Rail Development Corporation Ltd. (KRDCL), a Joint Venture Company of State Government of Kerala (51%) and Ministry of Railways (49%), has taken up the work of Silver Line (Semi High Speed Rail) from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod (530.6 Km) for development.**

**As of now, Railway Board has granted only, In Principle Approval (IPA) for this project, which connects the Northern part to the Southern part (Kasaragod to Thiruvananthapuram) of Kerala.**

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