

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 140
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2022
RENOVATING OF TRAIN COACHES**

†140. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways is improving / renovating train coaches for the convenience of the passengers at present;**
- (b) if so, the time frame fixed for the said purpose and the salient features of the plans of the Railways in this regard; and**
- (c) the time by which the Ministry proposes to replace the old and low standard beds (couches) of Ranchi-New Delhi Rajdhani Express?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

(a) & (b): Improvement in coaches has been a thrust area for Indian Railways (IR). In this regard, following steps have been taken:-

- (i) 02 Vande Bharat trains with ultra modern features like quick acceleration, on board infotainment and Global Positioning System (GPS) based passenger information system, automatic sliding doors, retractable footsteps and Zero discharge vacuum bio toilets have been running between New Delhi – Varanasi & New Delhi- Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra since 2019.**

- (ii) Additionally 03 new Vande-Bharat ver-2 trains with enhanced safety features, better ride index and passenger amenities have been introduced in regular service.**
- (iii) 35 LHB Vistadome coaches, which provide panoramic view, through wider body side windows as well as through transparent sections in the roof have been introduced on various sections of IR. At present, around 82 Vistadome coaches of different gauges are available over various sections of IR.**
- (iv) Under Project Swarn, rakes of Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains have been upgraded across multiple dimensions, which include coach interiors, toilets, onboard cleanliness, staff behaviour, linen, etc.**
- (v) Train rakes of more than 520 Mail / Express train rakes have also been upgraded under Project Utkrisht improving with improvement in Coach Interiors, Toilets etc.**
- (vi) With a view to provide safer and more comfortable journey to the travelling passengers, it has inter-alia been decided to proliferate Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches and replace trains operating with conventional Integral Coach Factory (ICF) type coaches by LHB coaches, in a phased manner. Production Units of IR have stopped the manufacturing of old design ICF type coaches from 2018-19 onwards.**

(c): Replacement of coaches is planned on age-cum-condition basis. All coaches are given periodic maintenance including attention over passenger amenities items as per stipulated norms.

There are two Rajdhani Express trains running between Ranchi and New Delhi with LHB coaches, which have a codal life of 35 years. Most of the coaches presently running in these trains have age less than 15 years.