

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 186
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2023**

VANDE BHARAT TRAIN SERVICE IN KERALA

***186. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government intends to introduce new stops to Vande Bharat express service in Kerala;**
- (b) if so, whether the Government intends further to include Chengannur railway station in the stoppage schedule of Vande Bharat service;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware of soiling and tampering resorted to in Vande Bharat express train in Kerala; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the total number of Vande Bharat trains that have been vandalized till date in the country?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 186 BY SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02.08.2023 REGARDING VANDE BHARAT TRAIN SERVICE IN KERALA

(a) & (b) Railway network straddle across State boundaries and trains are introduced across State boundaries as per network requirement. 20633/20634 Kasaragod –Thiruvananthapuram Vande Bharat Express, already has scheduled stoppages at seven stations viz. Kollam, Kottayam, Ernakulam Town, Thrisur, Shoranur, Kozhikode and Kannur, located in the State of Kerala. Further, Chengannur is presently being served by 76 train services. Besides, stoppages of train services is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification etc.

(c) & (d) ‘Police’ and ‘Public Order’ are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, therefore, State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and maintenance of law and order on Railways through their law enforcement agencies viz. Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP/District Police to provide better protection and security to railway property, passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith.

An incident of pasting posters on the window glasses of Vande Bharat Express (Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod) on its inaugural run on 25.04.2023 was reported at Shoranur Railway station. In this incident, RPF/ Shoranur registered case in Crime No.989/2023 u/s 145 (C), 147 and 166 (b) of Railway Act against arrested 5 persons and legal action was taken against them.

During the years 2019 to 2023 (up to June), 283 incidents of pelting stone on Vande Bharat trains were reported over the Indian Railways in which 151 persons have been arrested followed by a legal course of action.
