Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that half of Vande Bharat Express services are running with around 60-70% of its capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons for running Vande Bharat services on those routes where there is no demand;

(c) whether Vande Bharat services are incurring losses on New Delhi-Amb Andaura route, MGR Chennai-Mysuru Express route, Bilaspur-Nagpur Express route, CSMT-Sainagar Shirdi Express route;

(d) if so, the reasons thereon and the corrective measures taken by the Railways;

(e) whether there are many routes in Telangana where there is a need to run Vande Bharat (VB) services; and

(f) if so, the details of such routes identified and the steps taken to run VB services on those routes?

ANSWER

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

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

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(a) & (b) As on 26th July 2023, 50 Vande Bharat train services are running across the Indian Railways. During the current financial year i.e. 2023-24 (upto June 2023), the overall utilization of Vande Bharat trains has been 99.60%. On Indian Railways, occupancy of trains is not uniform throughout the year and it varies during lean and peak periods.

(c) & (d) Train-wise profitability is not maintained.

(e) & (f) Indian Railways do not operate train services on State-wise basis as Railway network straddles across state boundaries. As on 26th July 2023, 50 Vande Bharat train services are being operated on the Indian Railway network serving every state having Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network. These include 04 Vande Bharat services which are catering to the needs of stations located in the state of Telangana. Moreover, introduction of trains, including Vande Bharat services, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification, etc.

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