Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has achieved success in bullet train Project, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any Budgetory Provision has been made for the same during the current and the next financial year, if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for the said project still being a dream for the last five years;

(d) whether Vande Bharat train is just an extended version of Shatabdi and Rajdhani trains; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project is a sanctioned project, which is under execution with technical and financial assistance from Government of Japan. The budgetary allocations for the MAHSR Project is ₹18,592 crore for the current financial year 2023-24. Till now, 290.64 km of pier foundation, 267.48 km of pier construction, 150.97 km of Girder Casting and 119 km of Girder launching have been completed.
(d) and (e): Vande Bharat is a Trainset based on Distributed Power (Self Propelled) technology whereas present Shatabdi and Rajdhani Trains are on Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) platform, which are Locomotive hauled. Some of the major additional salient features of Vande Bharat Trains are:

(i) Faster acceleration with 50% powering.

(ii) Coach Condition Monitoring System (CCMS) for AC and Lighting.

(iii) CCTV system integrated with Emergency Talk Back units in each coach.

(iv) Semi Permanent Couplers with fully sealed Gangways.

(v) Battery back-up for functioning of critical items such as lights, RMPU (blowers) etc.

(vi) Driver Guard communication with voice recording facility.

*****