

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 340
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024**

VANDE BHARAT TRAINS IN KERALA

340 SHRI N K PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to start more Vande Bharat trains in the country especially Kerala & Kollam through Kollam Schenkottah route;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to avoid delaying other train services to keep the time schedule of Vande Bharat trains;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to introduce coaches in Vande Bharat trains for the low income group;**
- (f) if so, the details thereof;**
- (g) the details regarding the profit from Vande Bharat trains;**
- (h) whether the Government proposes to introduce Vande Bharat trains through Kollam/Schenkottah route; and**
- (i) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (i) As the Railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are introduced, as per network requirement, across such boundaries. Vande Bharat services are fully Air-conditioned services and non-AC Coaches cannot be operationally attached to these trains. As on 19th July, 2024, 102 Vande Bharat train services are operating across the Indian Railways(IR) including two pairs of trains viz. 20631/20632 Mangaluru Central-Thiruvananthapuram Vande Bharat Express and 20633/20634 Kasaragod-Thiruvananthapuram Vande

Bharat Express, serving the stations located in the state of Kerala. Kollam is presently being served by 79 pairs of train services and Sengottai by 14 pairs of train services. Besides, introduction of additional Vande Bharat services, is an on-going process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability, etc. On IR, passenger train services, including Vande Bharat services, are operated as per charted time table and General Order of Precedence of Trains, without infringing other services. IR makes all efforts to run trains as per their schedule. Further, train-wise profitability is not maintained.
