

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2596  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2024**

**HIKE OF COST PRODUCTION IN VANDE BHARAT SLEEPER TRAINS**

**2596 SHRI SELVAGANAPATHI T.M.:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the design changes in coaches of prototype of the Vande Bharat Sleeper coaches hiked the cost of production of said trains;**
- (b) whether the KINET, a joint venture between Russian transportation firm Transmashholding and Rail Vikas Nigam has been asked to incorporate design changes in coaches;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Railways has cancelled a Rs. 30,000 crore tender given to the French engineering company to manufacture and maintain 100 aluminium body Vande Bharat train sets for the next 35 years; and**
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (e): With a view to provide better travel experience to the passengers, Indian Railways introduced first-ever indigenously designed and manufactured semi-high speed Vande Bharat trains with modern coaches, advanced safety features and passenger amenities.**

**:2:**

**As on 02<sup>nd</sup> December, 2024, 136 Vande Bharat train services are operational on the Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network of Indian Railways.**

**Vande Bharat Sleeper Trains have been planned for long and medium distance journey. Design of trains to be manufactured by Indian Railways has been finalized. At present, 10 Vande Bharat Sleeper trains are under production. The first prototype has been manufactured and will undergo field trials. Further production of 50 Vande Bharat Sleeper rakes has been taken up by ICF, Chennai.**

**In addition, Contracts for manufacturing of 200 Vande Bharat sleeper rakes have also been awarded to Technology Partners. Design of these Vande Bharat Sleeper rakes has been taken up.**

**Design & Manufacture of coaches including Vande Bharat is a continuous process on Indian Railways and is undertaken based on operational and traffic requirement.**

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