

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 315  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.2024**

**ABRUPT STOPPAGE OF ERNAKULAM-BENGALURU VANDE BHARAT TRAIN**

**315 ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has stopped Ernakulam–Bengaluru Vande Bharat recently;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there was any specific reason for the abrupt stoppage of the train;**
- (d) whether the Government plans to re-instate the Ernakulam–Bengaluru Vande Bharat at the earliest; and**
- (e) whether any proposal is under consideration for sanctioning new Vande Bharat Trains to the State of Kerala in the current financial year, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 315 BY SHRI ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.11.2024 REGARDING ABRUPT STOPPAGE OF ERNAKULAM-BENGALURU VANDE BHARAT TRAIN**

**(a) to (e) Government has NOT stopped Ernakulam – Bengaluru Vande Bharat. The impression might have arisen due to the fact that 06001/06002 Ernakulam- Bengaluru Cantt. Special train service was operated by utilizing the spare Vande Bharat rake during the period 31.07.2024 to 26.08.2024 to clear extra passenger traffic. This train was in addition to the 9 pairs of regular train services, catering the sector.**

**Presently, 2 pairs of Vande Bharat Express are catering to the needs of stations located in the State of Kerala. Further, as the Railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are introduced as per network requirement across such boundaries. Besides, introduction of train services including Vande Bharat services is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability, etc.**

**Further, to increase capacity of existing rail network, several infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala have been taken up by Indian Railways. As on 01.04.2024, 08 projects (02 New Lines and 06 Doubling projects) of 419 km length, costing ₹ 12,350 crore are in planning/approval/construction stages and the expenditure of ₹3,046 crore has been incurred upto March 2024.**

**Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in the fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects in the State of Kerala as under:-**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Average Outlay</b>	<b>Increase w.r.t Average Allocation of 2009-14</b>
<b>2009-14</b>	<b>₹372 crore/year</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2024-25</b>	<b>₹3,011 crore</b>	<b>Around 8 times</b>

**Railways acquires the land through State Government. The State Government assesses the compensation amount and advises Railways. On receipt of demand from the State Government, Railways deposits compensation amount with the concerned District Land Acquisition Authority. However, execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala is held up due to delay in land acquisition as tabulated below:**

<b>Total Land required for Projects in Kerala</b>	<b>475 Ha</b>
<b>Land Acquired</b>	<b>64 Ha (13%)</b>
<b>Balance Land to be acquired</b>	<b>411 Ha (87%)</b>

**Railway has already paid ₹2112 crore to the Government of Kerala for land acquisition. Support from the Government of Kerala is needed to expedite the land acquisition.**

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