

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3901
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024**

**CONTEMPLATING VANDE BHARAT TRAINS THROUGHOUT THE
COUNTRY**

**†3901. SHRI CHHOTELAL:
SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to run Vande Bharat Trains throughout the country in future, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to replace Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto trains with Vande Bharat;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the detail of earnings thereof, train-wise and zone-wise;**
- (d) the number of ICF coaches redesigned and upgraded to LHB coaches since 2019 year-wise;**
- (e) whether the coaches are technically compatible with the original LHB coaches, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) the number of coaches identified as unfit during the last four years in this regard?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) As on 12th December, 2024, 136 Vande Bharat train services, having Chair Cars, are operational on the Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network of Indian Railways, which have been introduced without replacement of existing services. Besides, introduction of new train services, including Vande Bharat services, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability, etc.

On IR, Train-wise earning is not maintained. However, during 2024-25 (upto October, 24) the overall occupancy of Vande Bharat Express trains is more than 100%.

(d) to (f) Indian Railways (IR) has proliferated LHB coaches which are technologically superior with features like Anti climbing arrangement, Air suspension (Secondary) with failure indication system and less corrosive shell. These coaches have better riding and aesthetics as compared to the conventional ICF coaches and have design/operating speed of 180/160 kmph.

The Production units of Indian Railways are producing only LHB coaches from April 2018 onwards. The production of LHB coaches has continually increased during the years. Number of LHB coaches manufactured during 2014-24 vis a vis 2004-14 is as under:

Period	LHB coaches manufactured
2004-14	2,337 nos.
2014-24	36,933 nos. (more than 16 times)

Besides, replacement/repair of coaches is a continuous process and is carried out based on condition/completion of codal life etc. The number of coaches (BG) condemned during last 05 years are as under:

Year	No. of BG Coaches condemned
2019-2020	1841
2020-2021	2110
2021-2022	1494
2022-2023	2675
2023-2024	2776
Total	10896
