

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 64
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2022**

OPERATION OF VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS TRAINS

**64. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:
SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:
ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:
DR. SHASHI THAROOR:
SHRI SANJAY BHATIA:
SHRI ARVIND DHARMAPURI:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is on track to meet the target of deploying 75 Vande Bharat trains by August, 2023 and if so, the current status of the same;

(b) whether the Government proposes to operate such Vande Bharat Express Trains in Andhra Pradesh, especially on the popular routes of Visakhapatnam-Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam-Tirupati, Telangana, Thiruvananthapuram to Mangalore, Karnal to Mathura and New Delhi to Patna, if so, the complete details thereof, route/State-wise;

(c) whether the Government is planning to undertake speed enhancement projects for smooth operation of these trains in Kerala given the higher number of curved tracks and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the measures being taken by the Railways to prevent frequent incidents of cattle run-overs by Vande Bharat trains?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) Thirty Five (35) number of Vande Bharat rakes have been approved in the Coach Production Programme for the year 2022-23 and Sixty Seven (67) number of Vande Bharat rakes have been approved for the year 2023-24.

ICF has turned out Five (5) rakes of the Vande Bharat trains till November 2022 and further production of Vande Bharat rakes is being stepped up as per traffic requirement. However the actual production depends on supply chain which is developing rapidly.

(b) Train services on Indian Railway network, are not operated on State-wise basis as railway network straddles across state boundaries. However, introduction of train services including Vande Bharat Express is an ongoing process subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification, availability of rolling stock, competing demands, etc.

(c) Based on the speed potential of curves, sectional speed has been raised from 100 kmph to 110 kmph on both Up and Down line between Podanur to Shoranur and Shoranur to Netravati sections in Kerala state. Further, Final Location Survey has been sanctioned to examine the feasibility for increasing the sectional speed to 130/160 kmph in Thiruvanthapuram – Mangaluru section.

(d) A number of preventive measures have been taken by Zonal Railways to reduce cattle run-over cases on Railway track, which include the following:

(i)Cleaning of garbage and removal of wild vegetation along the track.

(ii)Sensitization of Train Crew on a regular basis for frequent whistling at locations prone for cattle/animal run over.

(iii)Construction of fencing/boundary wall at identified locations of trespass by cattle/animal and approaches of major towns.

(iv)Counseling of villagers for taking necessary steps to avoid cattle coming near track through safety seminar/propagandas in villages.

(v)Avoid dumping of food waste along railway track to avoid unnecessary congregation of animals near railway track.
