

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4633
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.03.2023**

VANDE BHARAT EIGHT CAR/COACH VERSION

**4633. SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:
SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways is considering to introduce a shorter, eight car/coach version of the Vande Bharat Express trains in the smaller cities;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, city-wise and the salient features of the said Vande Bharat Express trains and the reasons for running such trains;**
- (c) the target set by the Railways for the manufacturing of shorter, eight car/coach version for the next year and the current year and the time by which such trains are likely to be operative;**
- (d) whether being costlier as compared to Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains, Vande Bharat Express trains are not cost effective and are running into losses particularly those running between tier-2 and in smaller cities;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the losses incurred by the Railways in operation of such trains since its inception and the current year; and**
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to reduce the fare of Vande Bharat Express trains?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) Indian Railways have planned to manufacture 75 Vande-Bharat Chair Car trains to connect different parts of the country. Further, in the Budget 2022-2023, announcement has been made regarding development and manufacture of four hundred new-generation Vande Bharat Trains, with better energy efficiency and passenger riding experience.

Introduction of Vande Bharat services including those with 8/16 cars, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification, availability of rolling stock etc. The first 08-Car Vande-Bharat rake is planned in March, 2023. These trains are being operated with modern coaches and aim to provide faster service and better travel experience to the travelling passengers. The modern features of Vande Bharat services include quick acceleration, on board infotainment and Global Positioning System (GPS) based Passenger Information System, automatic sliding doors, retractable footsteps, Zero discharge vacuum bio toilets and are also fitted with KAVACH for enhanced safety.

(d) to (f) The Vande Bharat services have been well received by public at large with average occupancy of several trains exceeding 100%. Train-wise profit/loss is not maintained on Indian Railways.
