

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3970
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2000
IMPORT OF SPECIAL COACHES
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Railways have imported 24 All Metal Light Weight High Speed coaches from German base Alstom LHB and is planning to run it as the Super Shatabdi Express;
- (b) if so, whether three coaches of this specially designed train have already been shipped to India;
- (c) whether the Railways is in the process of identifying short and economically viable routes for operating this chair car train;
- (d) if so, the main features of this new luxury train with German technology; and
- (e) the extent to which it has been found suitable?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3970 BY VILAS MUTTEMWAR TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.8.2000 REGARDING IMPORT OF SPECIAL COACHES.

(a) A contract was placed in October 1995 for import of 24 All Metal Light Weight High Speed coaches from ALSTOM-LHB, Germany. These coaches are suitable for running Shatabdi trains. There is no train named as Super Shatabdi.

(b) Yes, Sir. Three coaches, which were shipped in December 1999, have already been received in India in February 2000. Remaining 21 coaches are yet to be shipped.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main features of these German coaches are as under: The coaches would be lighter in weight, would have better riding comfort, aesthetically superior interiors, eco - friendly toilet system with speed controlled discharge facility and more seating capacity. The coaches would also have higher speed potential and would be safer due to modern design of vestibule, anti-climbing feature to prevent climbing of coaches in case of collision, improved brake system, use of fire - retardant materials, etc.

(e) Three coaches received have been put to initial trials and have been found suitable.