

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1560
ANSWERED ON 29.07.2022

400 VANDE BHARAT TRAINS

1560 # SHRI BRIJLAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated a plan to operate four hundred Vande Bharat Trains to connect different cities of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the cities that are planned to be connected by these trains initially and the proposed changes in these trains for the convenience of passengers; and
- (c) the expenditure involved in the operation of the these trains and the revenue likely to be earned by Government from this?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b) In the Union Budget, 2022-23, announcement for 400 new generation Vande Bharat trains has been made. Vande Bharat services are State-of-the-art Train-set which have ultra modern features like quick acceleration, on board infotainment and Global Positioning System (GPS) based passenger information system, automatic sliding doors, retractable footsteps and Zero discharge vacuum bio toilets etc. Presently, 02 pairs of Vande Bharat Express namely, 22435/22436 New Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat Express and 22439/22440 New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Vande Bharat Express are in operation utilizing the available rake. Operation of more Vande Bharat trains, over Indian Railways network, is subject to operational feasibility, commercial justification and availability of rolling stock.

(c) Nearly 400 rakes of Energy Efficient Vande Bharat trains with different technologies are planned to be manufactures at Indian Railways' Production Units with selected Technology Partner. The cost for manufacture of Energy Efficient Vande Bharat (Sleeper version) rakes has been estimated at ₹130 crores per rake under Rolling Stock Programme.

The passenger earning of a train depends upon the composition of the train, the distance being covered, the profile of the train and its occupancy. Since the proposed trains are yet to be introduced, it is difficult to estimate the likely revenue to be earned from these trains at this stage.