

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2343
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2025

OPERATION OF VANDE BHARAT TRAINS

2343 SHRI A. A. RAHIM:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Vande Bharat Express trains currently operating across the country, zone-wise;
- (b) the total number of passengers who have travelled on these trains since their inception, State-wise;
- (c) the total revenue generated from Vande Bharat trains from each State since their launch;
- (d) whether the Ministry has considered that higher fare levels may be excluding passengers from lower-income groups in many regions, thereby making these trains accessible only to a limited population segment; and
- (e) whether Government proposes to introduce any flexible fare or subsidy mechanisms to ensure wider accessibility to the Vande Bharat service?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e) As on 7th August, 2025, 144 Vande Bharat train services are operational on the Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network of Indian Railways(IR).

Further, to provide affordable means of transportation to the low and middle income families, Indian Railways have introduced Amrit Bharat services that are fully non-AC modern trains. Already 14 services are in operation. The present composition of Amrit Bharat consists of 11 General Class coaches, 8 Sleeper Class coaches, 01 Pantry car and 02 Luggage cum Divyangjan coaches.

High Speed and enhanced Safety standards are the hallmarks of these trains with following enhanced features and amenities:

- i. Better aesthetics of seat and berths with enhanced look & feel on the lines of Vande Bharat Sleeper.
- ii. Jerk Free Semi-Automatic Couplers.
- iii. Improved Crashworthiness in coaches by provision of crash tube.

- iv. Provision of CCTV system in all coaches and Luggage room.
- v. Improved designs of toilets.
- vi. Improved design of Ladder for ease of climbing on to the berth.
- vii. Improved LED Light fitting & Charging Sockets.
- viii. Provision of EP assisted braking system.
- ix. Aerosol based fire suppression system in toilets and electrical cubicles.
- x. USB Type-A and Type-C mobile charging sockets.
- xi. Emergency Talk Back system for two-way communication between Passenger and Guard/Train Manager.
- xii. Non-AC pantry with enhanced heating capacity.
- xiii. Fully sealed gangways with quick release mechanism for easy attachment and detachment.

On IR, State-wise and Train-wise revenue earned and State-wise details of number of passengers is not maintained. However, the total number of passengers who travelled by Vande Bharat Express trains in financial year 2024-25 and 2025-26 (upto June, 2025) is approximately 3 crore and 0.93 crore respectively.

Railways are running different types of train services like Suburban locals/ordinary, Non-suburban locals/ordinary, Mail/Express, superfast trains, Garib Rath, Gatimaan, Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duronto, Humsafar, Tejas, Vande Bharat, Amrit Bharat, Namo Bharat Rapid Rail etc.

Accordingly, differential fare structures are there for different categories of train services to provide affordable rail transportation services to all sections of society.

Moreover, Indian Railways strives to provide affordable services to all strata of society and gave subsidy of ₹ 60,466 crore on passenger tickets in 2023-24. This amounts to concession of 45 percent on an average, to every person, travelling on Railways. In other words, if the cost of providing service is ₹ 100, then the price of ticket is ₹ 55 only.

This subsidy is continuing for all passengers. Further, concessions beyond this subsidy amount are continuing for many categories like 4 categories of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), 11 categories of Patients and 8 categories of Students.
