

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2371**  
**ANSWERED ON 08.08.2025**

**TIMELINE FOR INTRODUCTION OF NEW TRAINS**

2371 SHRI SANJAY SETH:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives and implementation timeline of the recently announced plan to introduce 1,000 new trains over the next five years;
- (b) the expected impact of this expansion on passenger connectivity, affordability and decongestion of high-demand routes;
- (c) the current status and future roadmap of the bullet train project in the context of India's rail modernization goals; and
- (d) the role of this integrated expansion in supporting regional development, tourism and daily commuting for the common citizen?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Indian Railways(IR) is focussed on providing affordable, good quality services to all sections of society. With a view to improve connectivity for the travelling passengers (including commuters) across various destinations (including tourist destinations), IR constantly endeavours to increase the number of services by introducing new train services, which is an ongoing process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability, etc.

Accordingly, Railways have also introduced Vande Bharat Sevices, Amrit Bharat services and Nammo Bharat Rapid Rail services which are aimed to provide better travel experience and improved safety to the passengers.

**Vande Bharat service:**

Indian Railways have introduced Vande Bharat services which are semi-high speed trains and are aimed to provide better travel experience and improved safety to the passengers. These services are equipped with enhanced safety features and modern passenger amenities like-

- I. KAVACH system

- II. Faster acceleration
- III. Fully Sealed Gangway
- IV. Automatic Plug Doors
- V. Better Ride Comfort
- VI. Mini Pantry with provision of Hot Case
- VII. Bottle Cooler
- VIII. Deep freezer & Hot water Boiler
- IX. Reclining Ergonomic Seats
- X. Comfortable Seating with revolving seats in executive class
- XI. Mobile charging sockets for every seat
- XII. Special lavatory for Divyangjan passengers in Driving Trailer Car(DTC),
- XIII. CCTVs, etc.

As on 06<sup>th</sup> August, 2025, 144 Vande Bharat train services are operational on the Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network of Indian Railways.

#### **Amrit Bharat service:**

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. As of 06<sup>th</sup> August, 2025, 14 services are already 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.

### **Namo Bharat Rapid Rail service**

Indian Railways have introduced NamO Bharat Rapid Rail services. These services are aimed to enhance the travel experience to the suburban and regional commuters for short distance travel. At present, the following 4 NamO Bharat Rapid Rail services are in operation:

- (i) 94801/02 Ahmedabad-Bhuj NamO Bharat Rapid Rail
- (ii) 94803/04 Jaynagar-Patna NamO Bharat Rapid Rail

The prominent features of NamO Bharat Rapid Rail include-

- (i) Centrally controlled Double Leaf Automatic Sliding Doors
- (ii) CCTVs for safety and passenger surveillance
- (iii) Mobile charging sockets, Fire Detection System
- (iv) Continuous LED lighting with Energy Efficient Lighting system
- (v) Emergency Talk System
- (vi) Modular interior with Cushioned Seats and Sealed Flexible Gangway
- (vii) FRP Modular Toilets with vacuum evacuation and
- (viii) Fully Air-Conditioned trains with Driver cab AC.

### **Subsidy**

IR also strives to provide affordable services to all strata of the society and gave subsidy of ₹60,466 crore on passenger tickets in 2023-24. This amounts to concession of 45% 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 (Divyangjans), 11 categories of patients and 8 categories of students.

### **Bullet Train Project**

The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project (508 km) is under execution with technical and financial assistance from Government of Japan. The Project is passing through the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli

with 12 stations planned at Mumbai, Thane, Virar, Boisar, Vapi, Billimora, Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad and Sabarmati.

Entire land (1389.5 Ha.) for MAHSR project has been acquired. All Statutory Clearances relating to wildlife, Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) and Forest clearance have been obtained. All the civil contracts of the project have been awarded. Out of total 28 tender packages, 24 tender packages have been awarded. All 1651 utilities have been shifted. Noise barriers are being installed to mitigate noise during operations.

The progress of various major items so far is as under:

Item	Progress		
	Gujarat	Maharashtra	Total
Foundation	350 kms.	56 kms.	406 Kms.
Piers	350 kms.	45 kms.	395 Kms.
Girder Casting	332 kms.	1.67 kms.	333.67 kms.
Girder Launching	312 kms.	0.16 kms.	312.16 Kms.

Track laying has started in 127 km of viaduct and erection of OHE masts have been commenced.

Out of total 12 stations, foundation works has been completed at 8 stations (Vapi, Bilimora, Surat, Bharuch, Anand, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, and Sabarmati). In Maharashtra section, foundation work is in progress at 3 stations (Thane, Virar, Boisar) and excavation work at BKC station is near completion and Casting of base slab started.

16 river bridges have been completed. Work is in advance stage at 5 major river bridges (Narmada, Vishwamitri, Mahi, Tapti and Sabarmati) in Gujarat & in progress in 4 river bridges in Maharashtra. Work on Depots (Thane, Surat and Sabarmati) is in full swing.

Work of the only tunnel in Gujarat has been completed. The work of the under-sea tunnel (21 Km approx.) has started. Out of which, 4 Km tunnel between Ghansoli and Shilphata in Maharashtra has been completed.

### **Extension of Railway network**

The launch of PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) has brought transformative approach in planning and execution of infrastructural transportation projects. The NMP, spanning across the entire country has brought in synergy between the infrastructural sectors such as railways, shipping, roadways, telecommunications, pipelines, etc. through

collaboration amongst concerned Ministries / State Governments / Departments, speeding up the clearances needed for the project completion as well as planning at a faster pace.

IR has imbibed the principles of Gati Shakti in its project planning process and now survey of all New Line, Gauge conversion and Doubling projects are taken up under PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) for the development of multimodal connectivity infrastructure to various Economic Zones with an objective to have integrated planning, enhanced logistics efficiency and remove gaps for seamless movement of people, goods/ commodities i.e. Agricultural products, fertilizers, coal, iron ore, steel, cement, limestone etc. and services including connectivity to places.

PM Gati Shakti Institutional mechanism is being extensively used for ground surveys, land records, alignment of route and has led to enhancement in the quality of preparation of Detailed Project Report and reduction in project cost.

In order to fast track the construction works, removing infrastructure bottlenecks, improving mobility, increasing freight loading, etc., Gati Shakti Units (GSUs) have been set up in all the divisions of Indian Railways.

Sanctioning of Railway projects is a continuous and dynamic process of Indian Railways. Railway infrastructure projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

After firming up of Detailed Project Report (DPR), sanctioning of project requires consultation with various stake holders, including State Governments and necessary approvals viz. appraisal of NITI Aayog, Ministry of Finance etc.

During last 3 years (2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25) and current Financial Year (FY), 892 no. Surveys (267 New line, 11 Gauge Conversion and 614 Doubling) of total length of 61,462 Km have been sanctioned across Indian Railways and this has been done on PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.

During last 3 years i.e. FY 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and the current FY, 237 projects (40 New Line, 17 Gauge Conversion and 180 Doubling) of total length 9,703 Km, costing approx. ₹ 1,90,333 Crore have been sanctioned across Indian Railways under PM Gati Shakti NMP.

To improve the rail connectivity across Indian Railways, 431 Railway infrastructure projects (154 New Line, 33 Gauge Conversion and 244 Doubling) of total length 35,966 Km, costing approx. ₹6.75 lakh crore are sanctioned (as on 01.04.2025), out of which, 12,769 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.91 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2025. The summary is as under:-

<b>Category</b>	<b>No of Projects</b>	<b>Total Length NL/GC/DL (Km)</b>	<b>Length Commissioned till Mar'25 (Km)</b>	<b>Total Exp upto Mar'25 ( ₹ in Crore)</b>
New Lines	154	16,142	3,036	1,45,318
Gauge Conversion	33	4,180	2,997	22,753
Doubling/ Multitracking	244	15,644	6,736	1,22,858
<b>Total</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>35,966</b>	<b>12,769</b>	<b>2,90,929</b>

The details of commissioning/laying of new track across Indian Railways is given below:-

<b>Period</b>	<b>New track Commissioned</b>	<b>Average commissioning of new tracks</b>
2009-14	7,599 Km	4.2 Km/day
2014-25	34,428 Km	8.57 Km/day (more than 2 times)

\*\*\*\*\*