

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 748
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2025

ALLOCATION OF VANDE BHARAT TRAINS TO KERALA

748 SMT. P. T. USHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Vande Bharat Express trains allocated to the State of Kerala in the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether Government is intending to allocate new Vande Bharat sleeper trains for various railway divisions in Kerala, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is further considering extending the service of any Vande Bharat train presently operating in the State of Goa or Karnataka to Kerala; and
- (d) whether any representation was received from Government of Kerala in this regard and if so, the response of Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) As the railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are introduced across such boundaries as per network requirement.

Presently, following four Vande Bharat (Chair Car) train services are catering to the needs of various stations located in the State of Kerala.

- (i) 20631 Mangaluru Central-Thiruvananthapuram Vande Bharat Express
- (ii) 20632 Thiruvananthapuram-Mangaluru Central Vande Bharat Express
- (iii) 20633 Kasaragod-Thiruvananthapuram Vande Bharat Express
- (ii) 20634 Thiruvananthapuram-Kasaragod Vande Bharat Express

Besides, introduction/extension of Vande Bharat train services including its variants is an on-going process on Indian Railways, subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc.

Representations/requests, both formal and informal, are received from State Governments, Ministries of Central Government, Elected Representatives, Consultative Committees etc. by the Railways at various levels including Railway Board, Zonal Railways, Divisional office etc. As receipt of such representations/requests is a continuous and dynamic process, centralized compendium of such representations/requests is not maintained. However, the representation/request etc. are dealt as per laid down procedure/guidelines and action as found feasible and justified is taken from time to time.

The Government of India is working diligently to strengthen the railway network in Kerala. To strengthen the railway network passing through Kerala, the following surveys have been sanctioned:

SN	Route	Length
1	Mangaluru – Shoranur 3 rd & 4 th Line	308 Km
2	Shoranur – Coimbatore 3 rd & 4 th Line	99 Km
3	Shoranur – Ernakulam 3 rd Line	107 Km
4	Ernakulam - Kayankulam 3 rd Line	115 Km
5	Kayankulam - Thiruvananthapuram 3 rd Line	105 Km
6	Thiruvananthapuram – Nagercoil 3 rd Line	71 Km

As on 01.04.2025, 06 projects (02 new lines, and 04 Doubling) of total length of 266 Km, costing ₹9,415 crore, falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala, are at various stages of planning and implementation, out of which 26 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹3,250 crore has been incurred upto March, 2025. The summary is as under:-

Category	No. of projects	Total Length (in Km)	Length Commissioned (in Km)	Expenditure upto March 2025 (₹ in Cr.)
New Line	2	146	0	309
Doubling/ Multitracking	4	120	26	2,941
Total	6	266	26	3,250

Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala are held up due to delay in land acquisition. Status of land acquisition in the State of Kerala is as under:

Total Land required for Projects in Kerala	476 Ha
Land Acquired	73 Ha (15%)
Balance Land to be acquired	403 Ha (85%)

Government of India is geared up to execute projects, however success depends upon the support of Government of Kerala. Railway had deposited ₹2112 crore for land acquisition to Government of Kerala. Support of the Government of Kerala is needed to expedite the land acquisition. For instance, details of some major projects which are delayed due to land acquisition are as under:-

SN	Name of the project	Total land required (in Ha)	Land acquired (in Ha)	Balance Land to be acquired (in Ha)
1.	Angamali - Sabarimala new line (111 Km)	416	24	392
2.	Ernakulam – Kumbalam Patch Doubling (8 Km)	4	3	1
3.	Kumbalam - Turavur Patch Doubling (16 Km)	10	9	1
4.	Trivandrum – Kanyakumari Doubling (87 Km)	41	36	5
5.	Shoranur – Vallathol Doubling (10 Km)	5	0	5
