

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2346
ANSWERED ON 19.12.2025

**EXPRESS TRAIN LINKAGE FROM KUSHINAGAR DISTRICT TO MAJOR
ECONOMIC HUBS**

2346 SHRI RATANJIT PRATAP NARAIN SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the proposal for providing a new express train linkage from Kushinagar district to major economic hubs;
- (b) the plan for increasing the frequency and number of stoppages of existing long distance trains at local stations;
- (c) the steps taken to address the reported overcrowding and cleanliness issues in trains passing through the region;
- (d) the funds allocated for upgrading the railway track capacity in the Kushinagar section; and
- (e) the measures to ensure punctuality of passenger train services?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e) As the railway network straddles across District boundaries, trains are introduced, as per network requirement, across such boundaries. Further, on Indian Railways, the occupancy pattern of trains is not uniform throughout the year and it varies over lean and peak periods. During peak rush periods, the occupancy of the trains especially on popular routes remains full whereas during lean periods and on less popular routes, there is sub-optimal utilization.

Kaptanganj station, which falls under the jurisdiction of Kushinagar district, is presently being served by 32 pairs of train services (listed below) which connect it to major cities like Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Amritsar, Jammu Tawi, Prayagraj, etc.

SN	Train no. and name
1	55098/55097 Gorakhpur Cantt–Narkatiaganj Passenger
2	55047/55048 Narkatiaganj–Gorakhpur Cantt. Passenger
3	55096/55095 Gorakhpur Cantt–Narkatiaganj Passenger

4	55036/55035 Gorakhpur Cantt–Siwan Passenger
5	55040/55039 Barhni–Narkatiaganj Passenger
6	55115/55116 Thawe–Kaptanganj Passenger
7	55107/55108 Thawe–Kaptanganj Passenger
8	75105/75106 Thawe–Nakaha Jungle DEMU
9	14111/14112 Muzaffarpur–Prayagraj Bapudham Express
10	14011/14012 Radhikapur–Anand Vihar (T) Express
11	14009/14010 Bapudham Motihari–Anand Vihar (T) Champaran Satyagraha Express
12	14047/14048 Sitamarhi–Delhi Amrit Bharat Express
13	15529/15530 Saharsa–Anand Vihar (T) Jansadharan Express
14	15211/15212 Darbhanga–Amritsar Jannayak Express
15	15133/15134 Chhapra–Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express
16	14627/14628 Saharsa–Chheharta (Chandigarh) Amrit Bharat Express
17	19409/19410 Sabarmati–Thawe Express
18	12557/12558 Muzaffarpur–Anand Vihar (T) Saptkranti Express
19	15001/15002 Muzaffarpur–Dehradun Rapti Sagar Express
20	15051/15052 Kolkata–Gorakhpur Purvanchal Express
21	15079/15080 Patliputra–Gorakhpur Express
22	15273/15274 Raxaul–Anand Vihar (T) Satyagraha Express
23	15135/15136 Chhapra–Amritsar Express
24	15113/15114 Gomtinagar–Chhapra Express
25	15655/15656 Kamakhya–Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express
26	15653/15654 Guwahati - Jammu Tawi Amarnath Express
27	15557/15558 Darbhanga–Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express
28	15567/15568 Bapudham Motihari–Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express
29	15561/15562 Darbhanga–Gomtinagar Amrit Bharat Express
30	19623/19624 Madar Jn.–Darbhanga Amrit Bharat Express
31	26501/26502 Patliputra–Gorakhpur Vande Bharat Express

32	19037/19038 Bandra (T)–Barauni Avadh Express
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Padrauna station which also falls under the jurisdiction of Kushinagar district, is presently being served by 09 pairs of train services (listed below) which connect it to major cities like Delhi, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Chhapra etc.

SN	Train no. and name
1	15133/15134 Chhapra - Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express
2	19409/19410 Sabarmati - Thawe Express
3	15113/15114 Gomti Nagar - Chhapra Express
4	15079/15080 Patliputra - Gorakhpur Express
5	55115/55116 Thawe - Kaptanganj Passenger
6	55035/55036 Siwan - Gorakhpur Cantt. Passenger
7	75105/75106 Thawe - Nakaha Jungle DEMU
8	55107/55108 Thawe - Kaptanganj Passenger
9	15135/15136 Chhapra - Amritsar Express

Besides, introduction of new train services, which is an on-going process, depends on various factors which include:

- Capacity of that section
- Availability of path
- Availability of required rolling stock
- Availability of matching infrastructure for rolling stock
- Maintenance requirement of railway tracks and other assets

Similarly, provision of stoppages of train services depends on the traffic justification, operational feasibility including availability of extra time on the section & availability of matching infrastructure such as Platform length etc.

To improve rail connectivity in Kushinagar region, the following works have been taken up:-

SN	Project	Cost (in Cr.)
1.	Gorakhpur-Valmikinagar doubling (96 km)	1,121
2.	Chhitauni-Tamkuhi Road new line (63 km)	1,731

Additional accommodation and Coaches:

With a view to meet the demand of passengers travelling in unreserved coaches, Railways have significantly increased the facilities for passengers demanding general class travel. During the last financial year 2024-25 alone, 1250 general coaches have been utilised in various long-distance trains.

To cater to the travel demand of the low and middle income families, Indian Railways have taken up 17,000 non-AC coaches (general/sleeper). On IR, the percentage of non-AC coaches, is about 70% as indicated below:

Table 1: Distribution of coaches:

Non-AC coaches (general and sleeper)	~57,200	~70%
AC coaches	~25,000	~30%
Total coaches	~82,200	100%

The number of seats available for non-AC passengers has also increased. The current composition is as follows:

Table 2: Distribution of seats:

Non-AC seats	~ 54 lakhs	~ 78%
AC seats	~ 15 lakhs	~ 22%
Total	~ 69 lakhs	100%

To provide greater accommodation for the passengers using General and non-AC Sleeper Coaches, the extant policy regarding composition of Mail/Express trains provides for 12 (Twelve) General class & Sleeper class non- AC coaches and 08 (eight) AC-Coaches, in a train of 22 coaches, thereby providing greater accommodation for the passengers using General and non-AC Sleeper Coaches.

Besides, in its constant endeavour to provide additional accommodation to travelling passengers, Indian Railways (IR), operates Special train services during festivals, holidays, etc. to cater to the extra needs of passengers and supplement the accommodation available by regular services. In addition to the above, the load of trains are also augmented, both on a permanent and temporary basis, to generate additional accommodation for different segments of passengers.

Accordingly, on the Indian Railways(IR) network, during Year 2025-26 (till November, 2025), about 60,000 special trains have been operated and more than 700 coaches have been utilized for augmentation of train services on a permanent basis.

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. 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. Presently, 30 Amrit Bharat services are already in operation, which include the following 14 Amrit Bharat services catering to the needs of Kaptanganj station:

SN	Train no. and name
1	15557/15558 Darbhanga–Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express
2	15567/15568 Bapudham Motihari–Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express
3	15561/15562 Darbhanga–Gomtinagar Amrit Bharat Express
4	15133/15134 Chhapra–Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express
5	14627/14628 Saharsa–Chandigarh Amrit Bharat Express
6	14047/14048 Sitamarhi–Delhi Amrit Bharat Express
7	19623/19624 Madar Jn.–Darbhanga Amrit Bharat Express

Punctuality:

Indian Railways makes all possible efforts to run trains on time. Several factors affect punctual running of trains which include foggy weather, path constraints, asset maintenance, alarm chain pulling, agitations, cattle run over and other unforeseen circumstances.

Based on assessments of factors affecting the punctual running of trains, remedial measures, both short term and long term, are taken which includes capacity augmentation of rail network, upgradation of track and signalling system, removing operational bottlenecks, yard remodelilng etc.

Overall punctuality of Mail/Express trains on Indian Railways during 2024-25 was 77.12% and that during 2025-26 (April-November) was 79.25%.

Cleanliness:

Cleanliness is a continuous process and every endeavour is made to keep the trains, including those passing through Kushinagar district region, in properly maintained and clean condition. Some of the major steps taken, in this regard, are as under:-

- 1) Installation of bio-toilets in all passenger coaches to eliminate direct discharge of human waste on Railway tracks.
- 2) Mechanized cleaning of coaches including toilets of trains.

- 3) Provision of On Board Housekeeping Service (OBHS) in identified long distance Mail/Express trains for cleaning of coach toilets, doorways, aisles and passenger compartments during the run of the trains. OBHS is presently provided in 1350 pair of trains.
- 4) Provision of Clean Train Station (CTS) scheme for limited mechanized cleaning attention to identified trains en-route.
- 5) Regular pest and rodent control of coaches and station areas.
- 6) Provision of dustbins in AC and non-AC Coaches.
- 7) Regular monitoring through Rail Madad portal which has been developed to enable passengers to highlight their needs and seek assistance for cleanliness related issues.
