

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3301
ANSWERED ON 20.03.2026

INTRODUCTION OF PURI-VISAKHAPATNAM VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS

3301 SHRI SUBHASISH KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the feasibility of introducing a Puri–Visakhapatnam Vande Bharat Express to strengthen connectivity between these vital east coast pilgrimage and industrial hubs;
- (b) the details of any studies conducted on passenger demand and track readiness for this specific corridor;
- (c) whether the Ministry is considering immediate extension of the existing Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam service to Puri to resolve current travel friction for inter-State pilgrims; and
- (d) whether an expedited roadmap has been prepared to ensure the commissioning of this service at the earliest possible date?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Presently, Puri is connected to Visakhapatnam by 04 pairs of direct train services. Further, Puri-Bhubaneswar sector is served by 44 pairs of train services (including 20835/20836 Puri-Rourkela Vande Bharat Express & 22895/22896 Puri-Howrah Vande Bharat Express) while Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam sector is served by 58 train services (including 20841/42 Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam Vande Bharat Express). The list of the train services catering these sectors are listed below:

Trains serving Puri-Visakhapatnam sector:

SN	Train No. & Name
1	20819/20820 Puri-Okha Express
2	22883/22884 Puri-Yesvantpur Garib Rath Express
3	22859/22860 Puri- MGR Chennai Express
4	17479/17480 Puri-Tirupati Express

Trains serving Puri- Bhubaneswar sector:

SN	Train No. & Name
1	12145/12146 Puri-Lokmanya Tilak (T) Express
2	12277/12278 Puri-Howrah Shatabdi Express
3	12801/12802 Puri-Anand Vihar (T) Express
4	12815/12816 Puri-Anand Vihar (T) Express
5	12821/12822 Puri-Howrah Express
6	12837/12838 Puri-Howrah Express

7	12875/12876 Puri-Anand Vihar (T) Express
8	12881/12882 Puri-Shalimar Garib Rath Express
9	12887/12888 Puri-Shalimar Express
10	12895/12896 Puri-Shalimar Express
11	12993/12994 Puri-Gandhidham Express
12	15639/15640 Puri-Kamakhya Express
13	15643/15644 Puri-Kamakhya Express
14	18125/18126 Puri-Rourkela Express
15	18303/18304 Puri-Sambalpur Express
16	18401/18402 Puri-Bangriposi Express
17	18409/18410 Puri-Shalimar Express
18	18413/18414 Puri-Paradeep Express
19	18415/18416 Puri-Barbil Express
20	18419/18420 Puri-Jaynagar Express
21	18421/18422 Puri-Sonepur Express
22	18425/18426 Puri-Durg Express
23	18427/18428 Puri-Anand Vihar (T) Express
24	18449/18450 Puri-Patna Express
25	18451/18452 Puri-Hatia Express
26	18477/18478 Puri-Yog Nagari Rishikesh Express
27	20471/20472 Puri-Shri Ganganagar Express
28	20813/20814 Puri-Jodhpur Express
29	20823/20824 Puri-Ajmer Express
30	20835/20836 Puri-Rourkela Vande Bharat Express
31	20857/20858 Puri-Sainagar Shirdi Express
32	20861/20862 Puri-Ahmedabad Express
33	20917/20918 Puri-Indore Express
34	22201/22202 Puri-Sealdah Duronto Express
35	22827/22828 Puri-Surat Express
36	22835/22836 Puri-Shalimar Express
37	22865/22866 Puri-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Express
38	22889/22890 Puri-Digha Express
39	22895/22896 Puri-Howrah Vande Bharat Express
40	22909/22910 Puri-Valsad Express
41	68413/68414 Puri-Talcher MEMU
42	68415/68416 Puri-Cuttack MEMU
43	68421/68422 Puri-Angul MEMU
44	68441/68442 Puri-Jaleswar MEMU

Trains serving Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam sector:

SN	Train No. & Name
1	11019/11020 Bhubaneswar New-Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (T) Express
2	12253/12254 Bhagalpur-SMVT Bengaluru Express
3	12503/12504 Agartala-SMVT Bengaluru Express
4	12507/12508 Silchar-Thiruvananthapuram Central Express
5	12509/12510 Guwahati-SMVT Bengaluru Express
6	12513/12514 Silchar-Charlapalli Express
7	12515/12516 Silchar-Coimbatore Express
8	12659/12660 Shalimar-Nagercoil Express
9	12663/12664 Howrah -Tiruchchirappalli Express
10	12665/12666 Howrah -Kanniyakumari Express

11	12703/12704 Howrah -Secunderabad Express
12	12773/12774 Shalimar-Secunderabad Express
13	12839/12840 Howrah - MGR Chennai Central Express
14	12841/12842 Howrah - MGR Chennai Central Express
15	12845/12846 Bhubaneswar-SMVT Bengaluru Express
16	12863/12864 Howrah -SMVT Bengaluru Express
17	12867/12868 Howrah -Puducherry Express
18	13433/13434 Malda Town-SMVT Bengaluru Amrit Bharat Express
19	15227/15228 Muzaffarpur -SMVT Bengaluru Express
20	15629/15630 Silghat Town-Tambaram Express
21	15929/15930 New Tinsukia-Tambaram Express
22	17015/17016 Bhubaneswar New -Secunderabad Express
23	18045/18046 Shalimar-Charlapalli Express
24	18047/18048 Shalimar-Vasco Da Gama Express
25	18463/18464 Bhubaneswar-K S R Bengaluru Express
26	20603/20604 New Jalpaiguri-Nagercoil Amrit Bharat Express
27	20609/20610 New Jalpaiguri-Tiruchchirappalli Amrit Bharat Express
28	20807/20808 Amritsar-Visakhapatnam Express
29	20815/20816 Tatanagar -Visakhapatnam Express
30	20841/20842 Bhubaneswar-Visakhapatnam Vande Bharat Express
31	20849/20850 Bhubaneswar-Rameswaram Express
32	20851/20852 Bhubaneswar-Puducherry Express
33	20853/20854 Bhubaneswar-MGR Chennai Central Express
34	20889/20890 Howrah Jn-Tirupati Express
35	22305/22306 Jasidih -SMVT Bengaluru Express
36	22501/22502 New Tinsukia-SMVT Bengaluru Express
37	22503/22504 Dibrugarh-Kanniyakumari Express
38	22603/22604 Kharagpur Jn-Villupuram Jn Express
39	22605/22606 Purulia -Tirunelveli Express
40	22611/22612 New Jalpaiguri- MGR Chennai Central Express
41	22641/22642 Shalimar-Thiruvananthapuram Central Express
42	22643/22644 Patna -Ernakulam Express
43	22807/22808 Santragachi- MGR Chennai Central Express
44	22809/22810 Paradeep-Visakhapatnam Express
45	22817/22818 Howrah -Mysore Express
46	22819/22820 Bhubaneswar New -Visakhapatnam Express
47	22825/22826 Shalimar- MGR Chennai Central Express
48	22833/22834 Bhubaneswar-SMVT Bengaluru Express
49	22841/22842 Santragachi -Tambaram Express
50	22849/22850 Shalimar-Secunderabad Express
51	22851/22852 Santragachi -Mangalore Central Express
52	22853/22854 Shalimar-Visakhapatnam Express
53	22855/22856 Santragachi -Tirupati Express
54	22871/22872 Bhubaneswar-Tirupati Express
55	22873/22874 Digha-Visakhapatnam Express
56	22879/22880 Bhubaneswar-Tirupati Express
57	22881/22882 Bhubaneswar-Pune Express
58	22887/22888 Howrah -SMVT Bengaluru Express

Besides, introduction of new train services/extension of services including Vande Bharat Express service on any route/section, are on-going processes on Indian Railways and depend 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 asset
