

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3303
ANSWERED ON 20.03.2026

LONG-DISTANCE TRAINS FROM ODISHA

3303 SMT. SULATA DEO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed passenger demand for additional long-distance trains originating from Odisha; and
- (b) if so, the findings thereof and action taken thereon?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) & (b): On Indian Railways, occupancy pattern of trains 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, there is sub optimal utilization.

Indian Railways (IR) constantly endeavours to augment the travelling facilities for the passengers inter alia by introducing new train services, extending & augmenting existing train services, operating special trains. Accordingly, Indian Railways, during the period 2020-2021 to 2025-2026 (upto Feb, 2026), have introduced 50 new train services including 10 Vande Bharat services & 02 Amrit Bharat services which, on originating/terminating basis, cater to the needs of passengers of stations located in the State of Odisha.

S. No.	Train No. & Name
1	22895/22896 Howrah-Puri Vande Bharat Express
2	20835/20836 Rourkela-Puri Vande Bharat Express
3	20841/20842 Bhubaneshwar-Visakhapatnam Vande Bharat Express
4	20891/20892 Tatanagar-Brahmapur Vande Bharat Express
5	20871/20872 Howrah-Rourkela Vande Bharat Express
6	19021/19022 Udhna-Brahmapur Amrit Bharat Express
7	22861/22862 Howrah-Kantabanji Express
8	20831/20832 Shalimar-Sambalpur Express

9	18049/18050 Shalimar-Badampahar Express
10	18051/18052 Badampahar-Rourkela Express
11	18427/18428 Puri-Anand Vihar (T) Express
12	18421/18422 Puri-Sonepur Express
13	18311/18312 Sambalpur-Boudh Express
14	18313/18314 Boudh-Bhubaneshwar Express
15	68185/68186 Balasore-Gopinathpur Nilgiri MEMU
16	68187/68188 Balasore-Gopinathpur Nilgiri MEMU
17	68189/68190 Balasore-Gopinathpur Nilgiri MEMU
18	68135/68136 Tatanagar-Badampahar MEMU
19	68441/68442 Jaleswar-Puri MEMU
20	68443/68444 Daspalla-Bhadrak MEMU
21	68449/68450 Puri-Nuagaon Road Passenger
22	68043/68044 Rourkela-Tatanagar MEMU
23	68133/68134 Tatanagar-Badampahar MEMU
24	68447/68448 Paradeep-Kendujhargarh MEMU
25	58309/58310 Balangir-Sonepur Passenger

However, as the railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are operated as per network requirement, across such boundaries.

Besides, introduction of new train services on any route/section, 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.
