

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2480
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2022**

STARTING OF VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS TRAINS

2480. SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to start Vande Bharat express trains from West Bengal, Assam and Orissa to run between the pilgrimage and cultural heritage stations of the States;

(b) if so, the details of plans made by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of proposals that have been received so far for Bharat Gaurav trains and the action taken thereto?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b) Indian Railways do not run trains, including Vande Bharat train services, on State-wise basis as Railway network straddles across State boundaries. However, introduction of new train services including Vande Bharat services *inter-alia* to promote/facilitate pilgrimage/tourism, is an on-going process which is dependent on factors like operational feasibility and availability of rolling stock, etc.

(c) Total no. of 22 service providers have registered on Bharat Gaurav Trains Portal. Out of these, 04 service providers have been allotted rakes by Indian Railways as per their demand. During Financial Year 2022-23 (upto 30.11.2022), total 26 commercial trips have been operated under the Bharat Gaurav Trains scheme.
