

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 298  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024**

**PLANS FOR NEW VANDE BHARAT TRAINS, CHENNAI AND MADURAI  
298 DR. T SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any plans to introduce new Vande Bharat trains connecting Chennai and Madurai with other tier-2 cities in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether there are any requests from any individual/association/federation to reduce the train fares in Vande Bharat express and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the Government's stand in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (c) As on 19th July, 2024, 102 Vande Bharat train are operational over Indian Railways network which includes 20665/20666 Chennai Egmore-Tirunelveli Vande Bharat Express serving the Chennai-Madurai sector. Besides, the sector is also served by another 20 pairs of regular train services and 4 pairs of Special train services. Moreover, introduction of Vande Bharat services, including the new variants, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability, etc.**

**Representations are received from different quarters at Division level, Zonal Railways, Ministry of Railways' level and even at station level etc, and action as found feasible and justified is taken.**

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