

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 263  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025**

**INTRODUCTION OF VANDE BHARAT/BHARAT GAURAV/TEJAS TRAINS**

**†\*263. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:  
SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has introduced Vande Bharat, Bharat Gaurav and Tejas trains across the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the salient features, aims and objectives thereof;**
- (c) the details of such trains particularly trains connecting Maharashtra including Parbhani Parliamentary Constituency, State-wise;**
- (d) the details of the routes/areas selected for the said purpose, State-wise;**
- (e) the details of the number of such trains presently being operated by the Government across the country;**
- (f) whether the Government proposes to expand the network of such trains and if so, the details thereof;**
- (g) whether the Government proposes to introduce new trains and increase the number of theme based tourist circuit trains and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (h) the additional steps being taken by the Government to increase the number and frequency of trains in Indian Railways in various phases?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (h) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 263 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025**

**(a) to (h) As a part of the greater objective to provide better travel experience and improved Safety, Indian Railways(IR) have introduced Vande Bharat trains and Tejas trains which have enhanced safety features and modern passenger amenities.**

**The Vande Bharat trains have features like- KAVACH system, Faster acceleration, Fully Sealed Gangway, Automatic Plug Doors, Better Ride Comfort, Mini Pantry with provision of Hot Case, Bottle Cooler, Deep freezer & Hot water Boiler, Reclining Ergonomic Seats, Comfortable Seating with revolving seats in executive class, Mobile charging sockets for every seat, special lavatory for Divyangjan passengers in Driving Trailer Car(DTC), CCTVs etc.**

**The Tejas train have features like Automatic entrance plug type door, Passenger information system, GPS based LED destination board, Luggage racks with reading lights aligned with seating, Electrically operated Venetian windows, Automatic cabin entrance doors, New aesthetically pleasing interiors with PVC film pasted on panels, Electronic reservation chart, CCTV Camera for security, Improved lavatory, Bio Vacuum system, Fire and smoke detection system, Fire suppression system in Power cars, Vinyl wrapped specially designed exteriors, Dust proof/sealed inter car gangway, Energy Efficient LED Lights.**

**As on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, 136 Vande Bharat train services and 08 Tejas train services (with Chair Cars) are operational on the Indian Railways network. However, as the Railway network straddles across State boundaries, and trains are introduced, as per network requirement, across such boundaries. Presently, on originating/terminating basis, 22 Vande Bharat services while 04 Tejas services are catering to the needs of the stations located in the State of Maharashtra.**

**With the objective to showcase India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places through theme based tourist circuit trains,**

**Indian Railways have launched 'Bharat Gaurav trains'. At present, 12 rakes are operational under the Bharat Gaurav scheme. Out of these, 10 rakes are being operated by Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC). Bharat Gaurav trains are planned and operated depending upon demand of tourists/pilgrims and its commercial viability.**

**So far, Bharat Gaurav Trains have been operated on 36 circuits covering 24 States/ UTs. Out of these, IRCTC has operated Bharat Gaurav Trains on 26 circuits. The popular circuits include Shri Ramayana Yatra/Shri Ram Lala Darshan, Punya Teerth Yatra, Dakshin Bharat Yatra, Sai Shirdi Yatra, Garvi Gujarat, Jagannath Puri Yatra, Jyotirlinga Yatra, Kashi Darshan, Uttar Bharat Devbhumi Yatra. So, majority of rakes and circuits are being operated by IRCTC.**

**Further, 87 Bharat Gaurav trips have been operated on the circuits covering locations in the state of Maharashtra. Out of these, 71 trips have been operated by IRCTC. These circuits include Shri Ramayana Yatra, 07- Jyotirlinga with Dwarka and Shirdi Yatra, Baba Saheb Ambedkar Yatra, Guru Kripa Yatra, Char Dham Yatra, South Western Sojourn, College on Wheels.**

**The Bharat Gaurav trains have features like external & internal Vinyl wrapping on special themes showcasing the Indian heritage, Modular kitchen with modern gadgets (electric based cooking equipments), Installation of CCTV cameras in common areas of all coaches, Modification of toilets, provision of fire alarms and air fresheners, PA system in each coach for information and entertainment, Onboard housekeeping staff for regular cleaning and sanitization of coaches.**

**Besides, introduction of new train services, extension and increase in the frequency of existing services are ongoing processes on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability, etc.**

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