GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4513 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN SITAMARHI

4513. SHRI LAXMIKANT PAPPU NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to run trains like Duranto Express/Humsafar/Vande Bharat/AC super-fast express daily from Anand Vihar to Darbhanga via Ayodhya, Basti, Khalilabad, Gorakhpur, Narkatiaganj and Sitamarhi and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Railways is planning for big projects like manufacturing of Engines, Passenger coaches or overhaul/maintenance in birth place of Maa Sita i.e. Sitamarhi and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways is planning to run trains from other places through Ayodhya to Sitamarhi and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Railways is planning to run direct trains between important cities of India like New Delhi, Mumbai etc. and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Indian Railways(IR) constantly endeavours to provide modern facilities and improve connectivity between stations. To this end modern train services like Vande Bharat and Amirt Bharat train services are being introduced.

Introduction of new trains, increase in frequency of existing trains, extension of existing trains etc. on any route/section 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

Considering the above factors, and to cater to the needs of Darbhanga-Delhi sector, IR have introduced 15557/58 Darbhanga-Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express (via Ayodhya, Basti, Gorakhpur, Narkatiaganj and Sitamarhi w.e.f. 01.01.2024). Presently, Darbhanga-Delhi sector is served by 04 pairs of train services.

Darbhanga-Ayodhya sector is presently being served by 04 pairs of train services including 15557/58 Darbhanga-Anand Vihar (T) Amrit Bharat Express and recently introduced 15561/62 Darbhanga-Gomti Nagar Amrit Bharat Express (w.e.f 26.07.2025 via Ayodhya Cantt).

The above Amrit Bharat services are also catering to the needs of Sitamarhi-Ayodhya sector. Presently, 03 pairs of trains are serving Sitamarhi-Ayodhya sector.

1. Vande Bharat service:

Indian Railways have introduced Vande Bharat services which are semi-high speed trains and are aimed to provide better travel experience and improved safety to the passengers. These services are equipped with enhanced safety features and modern passenger amenities like-

- I. KAVACH system
- II. Faster acceleration
- III. Fully Sealed Gangway
- IV. Automatic Plug Doors
- V. Better Ride Comfort
- VI. Mini Pantry with provision of Hot Case

- VII. Bottle Cooler
- VIII. Deep freezer & Hot water Boiler
- IX. Reclining Ergonomic Seats
- X. Comfortable Seating with revolving seats in executive class
- XI. Mobile charging sockets for every seat
- XII. Special lavatory for Divyangjan passengers in Driving Trailer Car(DTC),
 - XIII. CCTVs, etc.

As on 12th August, 2025, 150 Vande Bharat train services are operational on the Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network of Indian Railways.

2. Amrit Bharat services

To cater to the needs of passengers, including those from Bihar, and with a view to provide affordable means of transportation to the low and middle income families, Indian Railways have introduced Amrit Bharat services that are fully non-AC modern trains. The present composition of Amrit Bharat consists of 11 General Class coaches, 8 Sleeper Class coaches, 01 Pantry car and 02 Luggage cum Divyangjan coaches. High Speed and enhanced Safety standards are the hallmarks of these trains with following enhanced features and amenities:

- Better aesthetics of seat and berths with enhanced look & feel
 on the lines of Vande Bharat Sleeper.
- ii. Jerk Free Semi-Automatic Couplers.
- iii. Improved Crashworthiness in coaches by provision of crash tube.
- iv. Provision of CCTV system in all coaches and Luggage room.
- v. Improved designs of toilets.
- vi. Improved design of Ladder for ease of climbing on to the berth.

- vii. Improved LED Light fitting & Charging Sockets.
- viii. Provision of EP assisted braking system.
- ix. Aerosol based fire suppression system in toilets and electrical cubicles.
- x. USB Type-A and Type-C mobile charging sockets.
- xi. Emergency Talk Back system for two-way communication between Passenger and Guard/Train Manager.
- xii. Non-AC pantry with enhanced heating capacity.
- xiii. Fully sealed gangways with quick release mechanism for easy attachment and detachment.

To increase the capacity of the rail network and hence to run more trains, Indian Railways have taken up network expansion works in a big way.

Any Coach/Locomotive manufacturing/maintenance unit is set up keeping in view Railway's overall requirement of rolling stock. The existing manufacturing and maintenance units and those already planned are sufficient to cater the present requirements of Indian Railways.
