

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4544
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025**

EKADASHI EXPRESS

4544 SHRI RAJABHAU PARAG PRAKASH WAJE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognisance of the fact that thousands of devotees from Nashik district and surrounding regions travel regularly to Pandharpur especially during Ekadashi and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has received any proposals/representations for starting a dedicated train, to be named "Ekadashi Express", from Nashik to Pandharpur;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the status of initiation of the train services;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to start train services originating from Nashik to places like Rameswaram, Tirupati, Puri, Varanasi, Ayodhya, Haridwar, Ajmer, Amritsar, Jammu/SVDK, Dwarka for pilgrims from Nashik and nearby districts to have direct connectivity to these places and have availability of berths; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the timeframe by when such train services will be operationalised?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) to (e) Representation from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament, for introduction of a train from Nashik Road to Pandharpur named "Ekadashi Express" has been received.**

To facilitate the devotees travel to Pandharpur during Ashadhi Ekadashi festival, Indian Railways operates special trains for Pandharpur. This year 86 trips of special trains were operated to facilitate the devotees.

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, presently, Nashik Road is connected to Varanasi area by 09 pairs of train, to Ayodhya by 04 pairs of trains, to Puri by 2 pairs of trains, to Haridwar by 2 pairs of trains, to Amritsar and to Dwaraka by 01 pair of train each, to Delhi area by 05 pairs of trains.

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.
