

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1773  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.12.2025**

**VANDE BHARAT TRAIN BETWEEN SOLAPUR-CSMT MUMBAI**

**1773. MS. PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE:  
SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:**

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

- (a) whether the introduction of a Vande Bharat Express between Solapur and CSMT Mumbai has been repeatedly announced without a definite launch date;**
- (b) the details of the present status of infrastructure readiness and trial approvals;**
- (c) whether passenger-load surveys justify delay despite high demand and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the reasons for postponement and the revised date of commencement;**
- (e) the number of new trains, including Vande Bharat, introduced in Maharashtra during the last three years and the details thereof , sector-wise;**
- (f) whether the trains service suspended during the COVID period have been resumed in a smooth manner and whether all stoppages of these trains have been restored and if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (g) the details of the new trains announced during the last three years and the number of such trains that have been operationalised along with the details thereof;**
- (h) the reasons for these train services not being started so far and the reasons for the delay in commencing the said train services; and**
- (i) whether the Government has fixed any specific timeline for commencing these train services and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (i) Indian Railways(IR) have introduced 22225/22226 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (T) - Solapur Vande Bharat Express w.e.f. 11-02-2023 which**

is in addition to 31 pairs of train services, catering to the needs of passengers of Solapur-Mumbai sector.

Of the 164 Vande Bharat train services operationalised on the IR network, 24 Vande Bharat services (on originating/terminating basis), including 26101/26102 Pune-Ajni Vande Bharat Express (introduced w.e.f. 11th August, 2025) are serving various stations located in the State of Maharashtra. Of these the following have been introduced during 2022-23 to 2024-25:

Sl.	Train no. and name	w.e.f.
1	20101/20102 Nagpur-Secunderabad Vande Bharat Express	19-09-2024
2	20669/20670 Hubballi-Pune Vande Bharat Express	18-09-2024
3	20673/20674 SCSM(T) Kolhapur-Pune Vande Bharat Express	18-09-2024
4	22961/22962 Mumbai Central-Ahmedabad Vande Bharat Express	09-03-2024
5	20705/20706 H. S. Nanded-Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj(T) Vande Bharat Express	30-12-2023
6	22229/22230 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj(T)-Madgaon Vande Bharat Express	28-06-2023
7	20911/20912 Indore-Nagpur Vande Bharat Express	27-06-2023
8	22223/22224 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj(T)-Sainagar Shirdi Vande Bharat Express	11-02-2023
9	22225/22226 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj(T)-Solapur Vande Bharat Express	11-02-2023
10	20825/20826 Bilaspur-Nagpur Vande Bharat Express	12-12-2022
11	20901/20902 Mumbai Central-Gandhinagar Capital Vande Bharat Express	30-09-2022

**With a view to contain the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, Indian Railways (IR) had discontinued the operation of all regular passenger carrying trains with effect from 23rd March, 2020 and only special train services were being operated. Indian Railways also undertook rationalisation of time-table, including rationalisation of train services and stoppages, in a scientific manner with the assistance of IIT-Bombay. The exercise has been undertaken *inter alia* to provide for better passenger safety by creating maintenance corridor blocks, speeding up of train services and to improve punctuality. Since November-2021, Express train services are being operated as per rationalized time table and regular numbers.**

**The daily average number of train services on the Indian Railways network is 11740 (November, 2025) as against 11283 services operating prior to Covid-19. The daily average number of Mail/Express services on the Indian Railways network is 2238 (November, 2025) as against 1768 services operating prior to Covid-19.**

**As the railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are introduced, as per network requirement, across such boundaries. However, during 2022-23 to 2024-25, around 600 train services have been introduced by IR, of which around 100 train services cater to various stations located in the State of Maharashtra.**

**Besides, introduction of new train services 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**

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