

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 714
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2026**

**INTRODUCTION OF AMRIT BHARAT AND VANDE BHARAT SLEEPER TRAINS
IN KARNATAKA**

**714. SHRI P C MOHAN:
PROF. SOUGATA RAY:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce Vande Bharat Sleeper and Amrit Bharat trains to all States of the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (b) the details of the routes approved/proposed for these trains across the country particularly in Karnataka, including those originating/passing through Bengaluru;**
- (c) whether any new services from Bengaluru have been prioritised under these categories and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the criteria adopted for selection of train services under Amrit Bharat/Vande Bharat Sleeper including parameters such as passenger demand, route potential and infrastructure readiness; and**
- (e) the expected benefits of these services for passenger comfort, regional connectivity and economic activity in Karnataka?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) to (e) Indian Railways, with a view to improve travel experience of the passengers, have introduced indigenously designed and manufactured Vande Bharat trains with modern coaches, advanced safety features and**

passenger amenities. These new Vande Bharat Trains have following features:

- 1. Fitted with KAVACH.**
- 2. Jerk Free Semi-Permanent couplers.**
- 3. Centrally controlled Automatic Plug Doors and Fully Sealed wider gangways.**
- 4. Emergency Alarm Push buttons and Talk Back Units on all Coaches.**
- 5. Improved fire safety – Aerosol based fire detection and suppression system in electrical cabinets and lavatories.**
- 6. Higher acceleration with design/operating speed of 180/160 KMPH.**
- 7. Driver-Guard communication with voice recording facility & Crash hardened memory.**
- 8. Air conditioning units with indigenously developed UV-C lamp based disinfection system.**
- 9. Better Ride Comfort.**
- 10. CCTVs in all Coaches.**
- 11. For Divyangjan passengers special lavatory in the driving coaches on each end.**
- 12. Coach condition monitoring System (CCMS) display with remote monitoring.**

However, as the railway network straddles across State boundaries, trains are introduced across such boundaries as per network requirement.

As on 30.01.2026, 02 Vande Bharat Sleeper Express, 164 Vande Bharat Express (Chair Car) and 54 Amrit Bharat Express are being operated on the Indian Railways network.

To cater to the needs of the passengers of Bengaluru area, 26651/26652 KSR Bengaluru - Ernakulam Vande Bharat Express and 16597/16598 SMVT Bengaluru-Alipurduar Amrit Bharat Express have been introduced w.e.f 11.11.2025 and 24.01.2026 respectively. Besides, 16523/16524 SMVT Bengaluru - Balurghat Express and 16223/16224 SMVT Bengaluru - Radhikapur Express have also been introduced w.e.f. 21.01.2026 and 22.01.2026 respectively.

Presently, on originating/terminating basis, the following 22 Vande Bharat train services (Chair Car) and 6 Amrit Bharat train services, are catering to the needs of various stations located in the State of Karnataka of which 14 Vande Bharat services and 04 Amrit Bharat services originate from/terminate in Bengaluru area.

Vande Bharat:

SN	Train No. and Name
1	20661/20662 KSR Bengaluru – Dharwad Vande Bharat Express
2	20703/20704 Kacheguda – Yesvantpur Vande Bharat Express
3	20641/20642 Bengaluru Cantt. - Coimbatore Vande Bharat Express
4	22231/22232 Kalaburagi - SMVT Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express
5	20671/20672 Madurai - Bengaluru Cantt. Vande Bharat Express
6	26751/26752 Belagavi - KSR Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express
7	26651/26652 KSR Bengaluru - Ernakulam Vande Bharat Express
8	20607/20608 MGR Chennai Central – Mysuru Vande Bharat Express
9	20669/20670 Hubballi - Pune Vande Bharat Express
10	20645/20646 Madgaon - Mangaluru Central Vande Bharat Express
11	20663/20664 Mysuru - MGR Chennai Central Vande Bharat Express

Amrit Bharat:

SN	Train No. and Name
1	13433/13434 SMVT Bengaluru - Malda Town Amrit Bharat Express
2	16597/16598 SMVT Bengaluru - Alipurduar Amrit Bharat Express
3	16329/16330 Nagercoil - Mangaluru Junction Amrit Bharat Express

Moreover, introduction of new trains including Amrit Bharat train services and Vande Bharat train services along with its variants 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.**
